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BACBALL'S TELEVISION

Army Survey Alkalizes Sour Taste of GI's in Gripes on Pix 'Lemons'

Washington, Dec. 3. Survey of films being sent overseas by the Army Motion Picture Service discloses that GI gripes about the best pix not reaching them are without foundation.

Fact is, the Army MPS buys four pictures a week for its theatres in this country and at bases all over the world. It takes just about everything good which comes down the pike, but in order to fill its quota of over 200 features per year, the Service is forced to buy plenty of bluffers—just as neighborhood exhibitors in a similar position have to do.

One other thing pointed out here at MPS headquarters is that the film tastes of young men in uniform and away from home will frequently differ sharply from the normal civilian preference—especially since the average civilian picture theoregion is a woman. Hence, the soldier may think a lemon is being palmed off on him when he is getting the best from the point of view of continental U.S. as a whole.

Waters recently reported that the GI overseas thinks about the pictures being sent to him. Now it gives the other half of the situation (Continued on page 54)

Hollywood Flavor Adds To Latin Grace at Mex Prez's Inauguration

By PEGGY LEBOUTILLIER
Mexico City, Dec. 3. Although most Mexican festivity is disconcertingly spontaneous, the elegant gala surrounding the inauguration of Licensado Miguel Aleman as president of the Republic of Mexico was organized with North American efficiency plus Latin grace plus Hollywood production. Of the 21 guests especially invited by the Mexican government from the U.S., Hollywood was represented in a high-falootin manner with nearly 30 top names. 20th-Century-Fox outtrunked all other studios with its delegation which was a close runner-up along with Metro, Paramount and Columbia. The Skowroneks, L. B. Mayer, (Continued on page 54)

MONTY STRATTON BIOG DUE FOR M-G LENSING

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Courageous comeback boxer Monty Stratton, the Chicago White Sox pitcher who is continuing his baseball career despite the loss of his right leg in an accident, will be filmed by Metro, from a story by Douglas Morrow. Stratton was crippled several years ago in a hunting accident while his prime was at age 25. He learned to run on an artificial leg and became an outstanding pitcher for the White Sox League. Now his ambition is to return to the majors. Metro is making the picture as an inspiration to servicemen who lost limbs in the late war.

Cugie's Casa Cugat Ideas

Chicago, Dec. 3. Xavier Cugat is negotiating deals here with the Congress Hotel which may result in the start of the many star-of-repeated plans for a string of Casa Cugat nightclubs in principal key cities. His talks with the congress management involve construction of a new room to be operated under his name and the installation of similar ideas by others of the Hilton chain.

Apparently it's Cugat's idea to use his band as the b.o. lure in each spot at certain intervals throughout the year.

French Chanteurs

Figured to Hypo
Biz in N. Y. Cafes

New York cafes are getting set for the invasion of French singers. Already booked around town are Jean Sablon, who goes into the Versailles, Lucienne Boyer, down for Cafe Society Uptown; Charles Trenet, repeating at the Embassy; Rene Paul (see Pictorial) set for the Copacabana, and a flock of Galt principals imported by Lou Waters for the Latin Quarter. Latter group will open at the Broadway spot after they wind up at the Latin Quarter, Palm Island, etc.

One major reason for the series of importations is the attempt to get the United Nations' delegate trade, many of whom hanker for entertainment in a tongue that they understand. Many of the secretaries are more at home with French since French is the classic language of diplomatic parleys. Most of these performers have achieved a rep on their home soil, and, it's expected, that imported will hit these cafes only for nostalgic reasons.

However, the more important reason for the operation is the fact that there aren't enough headlines to take care of all cafes that would like to have them. They feel that since there have been no importations during the war, the Gauls will provide a handy peg for exploitation and could conceivably create the draw for the operation.

Performers of the class of Sablon, Mlle. Boyer and Trenet have already established their pulling power. But the others, despite the fact that they must prove themselves in N. Y. cafes, are necessary at this time as the b.o. for the extra trade they bring in.

Quite a Parlay

Jerusalem, Dec. 3. Teyvone Guthrie, British theatrical producer, is trying to persuade the Yiddish theatre to stage a play for Hahinsh month in Tel Aviv. Guthrie is an enterprising, six-inch Irishman will put on "Oedipus" in a new Hebrew version by Cherniavsky.

3 N. Y. CLUBS Selling Debutants

Pointing up the big league baseball owners' contention that television will not hurt their gate receipts, extensive rights to the 77 home games of both the N. Y. Giants and Yankees were sold this week to complete the commercial video pattern for N. Y. baseball. Yankee games went to DuMont, with NBC signing a similar deal for the Giants. Brooklyn plum had already been seized by CBS, with board chairman William S. Paley personally handling the deal that gave the web rights to Dodger home games on a five-year contract.

Col. Larry S. MacPhail is reported to have asked \$300,000-\$400,000 from DuMont for the Yankee games, with the price to be boosted to \$500,000 if DuMont succeeds in getting a majority. Terms between NBC and the Giants have not yet been set, with Giants' press Horeva Storchman declining to wait and see whether NBC would televise the games on a sustaining or commercial basis.

CBS execs have declined to state the terms of their contract with the Dodgers. It's understood, however, that the web has already made overtures to Ford Motors and the J. (Continued on page 34)

RKO PAYING 20G FOR 'SUSIE' IN CANTOR PIC

RKO is paying publishers Shapiro-Bernstein \$20,000 for the unlimited use of the song, "If You Know Your Luck, the sooner the better." Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis, Cantor himself will produce the film for release by RKO. Film company closed the deal for the tune, which is closely associated with Cantor's career in the theatre. The week's price is not far from a record, but it is unusually high as synchronization rights go.

CATS (Civilian Actress Technicians) To Replace USO-Camp Shows for GIs

As part of the Army program to make the GI in the European theatre of operations self-sustaining as a fact of stage entertainment is concerned, Special Services is augmenting a women's group to work in conjunction with the occupation soldier. Rent is necessary at this time as the ETO will be deprived of USO-Camp Show units after Jan. 1, and the new civilian actresses and travel personnel in that area to stage entertainment for servicemen.

Plans are stated to develop an integral part of this setup with the Civilian Actress Technician program is necessary at this time as the ETO will be deprived of agents who have been in the ETO for three years, and an entire unit will be moved to New York to recruit 22 CATS who will sign to go to Europe and

James Mason Thinks Brit. Films Err in Bidding for the World Market

Record Pix Divvy

Washington, Dec. 3. Picture dividends broke all records in September, according to Department of Commerce figures reflecting the last week. The month's motion to the stockholders was a terrific \$50,000,000, two and one-half times the \$33,750,000 figure for September, 1945.

Also unequalled was the stockholders' draw for the entire third quarter of the year—\$12,800,000, more than twice the \$5,200,000 for the same three months of last year. An idea of just how terrific the dividends are running is the fact that \$20,555,000 was paid out in the first nine months of 1946, double the dividends for the same period of 1945. For all of 1945, the dividends amounted to only \$23,685,000, or well below the 1946 nine months' total.

Burbank to B'way and Back for Wm. Price If 'Wm. and Mary' Clicks

Paradox of "William Loves Mary" the Norman Krasna play which Rodgers & Hammerstein are producing under a pre-production deal with Warner Bros., is that William Price, the male lead, who was once fired by WB, may wind up again under the Burbank banner, if the play's a click. Show is due on Broadway Feb. 3. The author and Joshua Logan, stage and screen writer, who is producing the play, is also coming east for the preem, his first N. Y. holiday in years. Wald just finished one pix at WB this year and is taking an extended vacation.

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thorp as well as help teach the GI fundamentals in staging and production of shows. CATS sign for a year at an annual salary of \$5,000, of which, it's claimed, it's possible to save \$4,000. Rent for the year is \$185, and meals cost 25c, each. The Government provides most essential services, which include medical and dental care as well as costumes and travel. In addition, a liber-1 leave policy is in effect, which enables CATS to participate in the Army travel program. Consequently, Miss Vernon thinks the proposition is a good break for young actresses with no previous qualifications.

Program entails the use of 50 CATS. There are currently 18 in Europe, and Miss Vernon plans to (Continued on page 54)

James Mason, English film star, in the U. S. on his first visit, denied any intention of making American film commitments during a planned five weeks' stay in this country. In spite of recurrent rumors that the purpose of his trip was to sign a two-picture pact with one of the major companies, Mason reiterated he intended to remain "a free man for a while."

Mason voiced his opinions on subjects ranging from American film fans to the business methods of the J. Arthur Rank organization. He dwelt at some length on British film production, stating that English films should remain primarily English, instead of attempting to pitch to a world market. Saying that British film producers should stick to simple, straightforward subjects, Mason averred that they couldn't hope to approximate American success in the making of lavish large-scale musicals. He cited, as evidence, the bad reviews received by "London Town," musical produced by Wesley Ruggles, with a cast of English musical comedy and musical stars and stars. He said that British films are by far the most popular picture fare with English audiences in spite of the apparently widespread (Continued on page 54)

Rank's 'Anti-Negro' (?) And Pro-Soviet Films K.O.'d for U.S. Market

Differences in British and American social and political ideologies, which have pic acceptable in one country but not the other have put the kibosh on two of J. Arthur Rank's most promising films—so far as the U.S. market is concerned. The films, "Men of Two Worlds" and "Adventure For Two," were originally slated for distribution in the U. S. by Universal, but second thoughts by U.S. execs have brought about a nice for the duo and their claim that their controversial nature would stir a tempest that might hurt other British pictures in the market.

Clamp on "Men of Two Worlds" followed private screening of the film for Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, rep of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, and spokesmen for other anti-racialists. (Continued on page 53)

BIG XMAS SHOPPING NO HELP TO CAFE BIZ

Exactly a year ago this past week, when the Christmas season was in full swing, the spending peak was reached and now, pre-Xmas, business finds the bistros bonnie in spots and not so bullish in others. On the whole it's not New Year's eve parties as was the tradition custom, and it's gotten so that waiters are cordial and cabbies inordinately friendly. The industry, it is still there, however, is evidenced by the probable record business the bistromen are in for the next few days (priced), leaving more than a little ogre for the cafes.

Toscani Who Claimed He Was 'Joppolo' On Adano' Loses in Important Decision For Scriptors on Civil Rights Issue

Playwrights, film and radio scriptors were bailed out last week, along with the co-plaintiffs, by a decision from a legal team which would have substantially broadened the financial recovery for character resembling living persons unless the work used either the name or the portrait of the plaintiff. In the case of *"A Bell for Adano"*, a portrait of the plaintiff.

Citing the N. Y. Civil Rights Law in his support, Toscani had asked balm on the contention that Licata, who was Adano, was not the man he was in fact, the senior civil affairs officer of an American military government in Licata, Basso, Italy, plaintiff had asserted, while not naming him or depicting his likeness, actually portrayed him as Joppolo, which was "an exploitation of his acts, life and personality." Discussing the plaintiff's argument and that it was not intended to give a living person a cause of action for the unauthorized use of the name, the court decided that the acts and events concerning a person designated fictitiously in a novel or play were not the acts and events of the living person but the acts and events of the character, it continued, would broaden the scope of the Civil Rights Law by "and play" warranted by the meaning that would ordinarily be ascribed to the words 'name, portrait or picture'.

In dissenting, Judge Edward Doreid with Toscani, and argued that "the picture is not a photograph but includes any representation of such person," citing an opinion of the U. S. Supreme Court. Basing a work on events occurring in the life of a living person would support a suit for the unauthorized portrayal of a person in fiction would be sufficient.

SERVICE RESERVISTS HONOR SHOWFOLK

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Fifteen men and women in air connected with show business were contacted by the Reserve Officers Assn. for services rendered on the home front during the war.

With Mousie Britton Dinehart as emcee, awards were handed to Mrs. Jean Herholt, Mrs. John Ford, Anne Lehr, Col. W. H. Wright, Sr., Ida Koverman, Harry Crocker, Harry Revel, Pietro Gentile, Don Trimmer, Mrs. J. C. Wallace, Joe E. Brown, Jean Garri, Ann Garri, Helen Sue Goldie and Dr. Sam Hoffman.

'There's Only 1 Paris, That's in N.Y.' Pat O'Brien

Having shopkeepers in the Communist performance plays to London and Paris, and back, Paramount's Norman Siegel has returned to his home lot. He was on loan to the industry to chaperone the various scenes. Pat O'Brien, one of them, returned west over the weekend, leaving the Reggie Gardners and the Ray Millands as the sole reminders. Former leave this week for the Coast, and the Millands are en route from Paris, having taken time out to buy a home on the Riviera. It is Milland's idea to make a picture a year in France and, having fallen for the Cannes climate, he bought a villa there.

Incidentally, the general findings by the U. S. State Dept. that the firm and tough and that the Continent, with its wide-open black markets, at least affords better living conditions.

"But," to quote O'Brien, as they saw the New York skyline upon their return last week, "there is only one Paris—and it's in New York."

Wisner Scores .722

A marked spurt in the past three weeks, during which he hit .300, gave him a .722 average, enabled Harry Wisner to wind up his Varsity football participation with a .722 average. During the spurt Wisner moustropepped the odds-on favorite at .708 clip. On the season he snared 250 wins against 100 losses. Five of which there were 15, were not counted.

The final average is considered good, especially since the past season produced some of the most thrilling plays of the annals of the grid game, particularly in the pro field.

First selection by Wisner, who is, incidentally, director of sports and ace sports announcer for the American Broadcasting Co., will appear the issue before New Year's Day, when he will conduct the out of the Army Bowl games.

Sport Shorts

Trading on a couple of w. football players, Eddie's are currently headlining their layout with Jerry BLANCHARD and He sold his newspaper ad arranged to make them look like a couple of characters out of the Army 'backfield'.

Billy Jurges, Chi Cub shortstop, and his wife, who opened a bistro just outside N.Y., during his time on Cogan's "The He" sold his newspaper ad arranged to make them look like a couple of characters out of the Army 'backfield'.

General Ira C. Baker will present medals to Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels Dec. 9 at March Field. Producer will receive the Medal of Freedom for meritorious service in England during war, while Lyon will receive the Legion of Merit for his services with the 8th Army Force.

U.S. MEDALS FOR BEBE, LYON FOR WAR WORK

Hollywood, Dec. 3.

Bell's Commercial Pic;

What, No Don Ameche?

One of the most ambitious commercial films ever produced in eastern studios will emerge from the cutting room of the new RKO Pathe studios about Dec. 12. Picture is being made by the Bell Telephone System and covers portions of the life of Alexander Graham Bell. Running time will be about a half hour and the budget has been set in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

It will be the first picture completed at the new studios and will have on the staff several important names. The picture will be produced by Raymond Edward Johnson, last seen as Jefferson in "The Patriot" series by the Bell System, and the picture will be the first of Pathe's "This Is America" series, while Charles Underhill will produce under supervision by Frederic Ullman, Jr. and Jay Bonafide. Richard O. Fleischer, on loan from the U. S. Navy, will be in charge of the picture.

Distribution of the film will be centered around the Bell System's offices and, where possible, schools and public libraries. Currently in the works at the upturn studios are a Navy film and another commercial production for an unnamed sponsor.

Drafted Again!

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Audie Murphy, much-decorated soldier, will star in the Cagney production, "Two Soldiers," based on a story by William Faulkner. The actor's action is being groomed for two more Cagney pictures. "A Lion Is in the Streets" and "The Stray Lamb."

23rd WEEK!

KEN MURRAY'S "BLACKOUTS OF 1946"

El Capitan Theatre, Hollywood, Cal. "Keep 'em laughing Ken—you're doing a great job."

HUBBY TAKES OVER OLIVIA'S BIZ AFFAIRS

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Olivia DeHavilland's writer-husband, Max Goodrich, has taken over management of all her business affairs, with a general housecleaning of her agent, lawyer, secretary and coach. Entire staff was given the gate last week and Goodrich takes over in all phases.

Firing comes as a surprise because the attorney added Miss DeHavilland in her successful battle to terminate her Warner's contract. Agent, who had sided with her in the legal combat, is now prepared to bring suit against the star because he has a three-year contract with her. He will look for a share of any savings accruing during that time. Actress has been collecting \$150,000 per year.

Although reports have been circling that Miss DeHavilland will play the femme lead in "Voice of the Turtle" at Warners, with legit publicity, Alford DeHavilland, Jr., seening her for film role, author-director John Van Druten said he had not talked with her. He did not intend of doing so because "she understood on the Warner lot that she was going to be a film star there." Joseph Cotton is also reported being pitched for the male lead.

Universal - International, meanwhile, announced yesterday (Monday) that John Ford's picture of Miss DeHavilland, had been signed to replace the star in "Ivy." Sam Wood production, picture which was scheduled to start yesterday, will go before the lenses next Monday (9). Miss DeHavilland declared she had never signed to appear in the picture but had agreed to ink a contract if she approved the film script. She added that she's never seen the final script as has changed her mind.

Fickle French Nudes

Lifar, Hoot Pianist

Paris, Nov. 24. Claiming that he was becoming more active in participating in entertaining Germans during the occupation, part of the audience of an Adolphe Borchard, recital interrupted his performance at the Salle Pleyel last week. Whistles and firecrackers were used.

After an intermission the longhair pianist resumed playing, and was interrupted by the audience, who were less than willing to resume once more and end his piece before taking a break.

On the other hand, the comeback staged by Serge Lifar, noted ballet dancer and choreographer whose performance at the same hall was expected to cause an uproar, was a big hit. The unpredictable French, who on months earlier would not permit him to appear at a charity performance on account of alleged bad activities, showered him with the stage, shouting "A O'Pera," meaning they wanted him to resume his ballet direction there.

TRIXIE FRIGANZA 76

Trixie Friganza, former star of musical comedies on Broadway, observed her 76th birthday at the Sacred Heart Academy, Pasadena, where she has been confined by illness for some time.

Starting her stage career in 1889, Miss Friganza retired six years ago.

The Berleing Point

By Milton Berle

There's no doubt that the New York stage critics had plenty of power. And some of them reviewed my production as they had a controlling interest in Cain's Warehouse... Know one first-string critic (and he's got the yoyo to go with it), who has a terrific vocabulary... he knows 300 synonyms for "Stinks." But this guy's got a little gas far when he brings all his reviews on himself. On the other hand, some critics head backwards to give a show a break. For instance, John Chapman predicted that "Brooklyn" would get great "word-of-mouth" advertising. And when Robert Coleman couldn't make up his mind to either a "thumbs up" or a "thumbs down," he called it "half-facts." When he had to review "The Immortal Comedy," from force of habit he went to the under-the-table. George John Nathan is the most well-read of all the critics. He always arrives at an opening wearing a cravat by Sulka, a suit by Brooks Brothers... and a ring bag by Abercrombie & Fitch.

The Great Way

Understand Monogram is making a sequel to the Jolson story called "The Gene Valley Story." They're going to bud in Jolson's voice (Harry Jolson, Lip-lipped) as the lead character in a conversational.

Understand Tommy Manville is publishing his own book... he's calling it "Woof Woof."

With so many fighters going into show business from the ring... instead of auditions, agents are asking for a fast three rounds.

So many revivals on Broadway this season it looks like Father Devine is taking over.

Martineau monologue: "Conceited?" His conversation contains more 'T's than Mississippi."

Chorus girl: I always know when I've had enough to drink... I become unconscious.

No Truth To The Rumor

That Jerry Lester's favorite song is "My Buddy." That Fred Astaire was Gene Kelly's first love. That David pictures had been held over for a third week at the LaFayette... That B. S. Pully will star in this year's airing of Dickens' "Christmas Carol." That comedy writers will insist on writing comedies known for repeat broadcasts.

Hatnail Descriptions

Madame Du Barry: The Sport of Kings... "The Chase"; Cummings and Jones... Junkman: Scarpaper... Cain's Warehouse: Home of the Brave... New hair-do tryouts: treat rehearsals.

Observation Department

Now that Sammy Kaye has his own stable of horses I suppose he'll change his audience participation stunt to "So You Want to Lead a Race?"

It's a welling on line to theatre. The other night the cats that gave birth to live babies to become fiddle strings (some guts).

Berled Eggs

Solly Violesky says that this year you don't have to fill out income tax forms... just send the Government a blank bank withdrawal slip.

Understand writers are now using a "Parody" pen... writes six carbon copies at one time.

Patricia Adams has made a skating rink on the roof of his house out of frozen gin. He says the gin made rotten ice... but, oh, hisaie!

Advent: If you don't start shopping for an act you'll wind up asleep.

So far this month I've seen Claude in "Notorious," "Caesar and Cleopatra" and "Angel on My Shoulder"... it never rains but it pours.

Just found out why Joe E. Brown's material is always so fresh... he files it in a humidor.

My brother (the one who specializes in guest shots at barbecues) just went nut trying to log the last word with an echo.

JOSE ITURBI CANCELS CONCERTS FOR M-G PIC

With Jose Iturbi already recording music for the Metro film, "The Birds and the Bees," in which he is to co-star with Jeanette MacDonald, maestro's plans for a nationwide tour this season, originally planned, will keep Iturbi busy through February.

Change in plans came about this fall when Iturbi took sick. Orchestral work was disrupted and he signed for the Metro pic instead.

Eagle-Lion Term Pacts 13-Yr.-Old Rich'd Tyler

Richard Tyler, 13-year-old co-star in "Christopher Blake," the Moss Hart play at the Music Box, N. Y., has signed by Irving Lazar, Eagle-Lion veepes, to a term contract, Lazar, who's married, has had his son brought the youngster to Hart for the role, also owns a piece of the play. He was assisting him in all his activities, even before played, Lazar conceived the "Winged Victory" picture, which he produced and produced for the Army Air Force.

Shattered Stridwick, co-starred with Martha Sleeper and Young Tyler, is already signed to 20th Century-Fox. He has had his school bobbed recently. Miss Sleeper, of course, is in and out of play.

Kurnitz on 'Venus'

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Deal for Harry Kurnitz's script "One Touch of Venus" for Pickford-Cowan productions will net the writer \$100,000.

In addition, Kurnitz is presently negotiating with Lester Cowan for another contract which will give him 10 per cent of the profits on the film.

Hoods Strip Gypola's Trailer While She's Doing Strip in Nitory

Pittsburgh, Dec. 3.

While she was doing likewise at the Club Belvedere, on Thanksgiving, Gypola Rose, the actress who dropped Gypsy Rose Lee's trailer, Miss Lee reported to police that her rolling home was entered while she was going through her act at the local nitory.

A large motion picture camera, a small camera with telephoto lens and several hundred dollars worth of accessories were the loot, which was taken from her room on engagement to another.

Another Thanksgiving morris also occurred in the suburban case, more than 15 cases of whiskey and several big room loins and a small room, every lock in the place shortly after closing time, they were very peculiar. They took the things which are rare in Pennsylvania, and didn't touch the unrationed rums and gins.

J. C. Stein Back From Extended So. Am. Trip

Lew Wasserman, head of Coto operations for Music Corp. of America, came on to New York from his extended tour in the South. Stein says that he and Mrs. J. C. Stein following the MCA grex's return from a 2 1/2 month tour of the southern states. Wasserman flew back last night and Stein remains in New York until the end of the week. Stein says that he and Mrs. J. C. Stein says that S. A. is a big potential talent market for the future, but it has to be developed and this will take some time. Trip was business and vacation and business success.

WORLD OF PICTURES

Better Playdates for British Pix in U. S. Best Antidote to English Quota Law

Best possible replacement for the British quota law, outlined by the British Film Institute, is the new law, which will allow the British Film Institute to import into the U. S. as many British films as it wishes, according to Gerald Mayer, chief of the MPA foreign division. On one matter, Johnston conceded, is that the British don't like to see so much of their own currency in the hands of England. Wider distribution of their pix here will give them an opportunity to get returns for the money American films take out of England.

Prior to Johnston's arrival in England, Mayer said, the British were not fully aware of the American side of the question. Johnston said that, however, that Americans welcome free enterprise and that if they recognized the present quota law upon its expiration in March, 1948, there would be no guarantee against the new Republican Congress passing restrictive laws, which would importation of other British products into this country.

If the British can produce good pictures, Johnston told them, then there is good reason to believe that the distribution of their U. S. will be the solution to the problem. Steps in that direction, however, must be taken out by the parties of (Continued on page 21)

SEPT., '46, REVEALED AS RECORD B.O. MONTH

Washington, Dec. 3. September was the all-time record month at the nation's boxoffices, according to figures released over the weekend by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Users' bank take during the big bonanza month was a dizzy \$48,897,428, more than \$6,000,000 above the previous high—the \$39,897,510 figure for September, 1945. The September total was a sensational \$110,000,000 better than the entire tax bite for August, 1946, no slouch of a month itself.

About 90% of the total is figured to come from picture houses, which though sports played a big part. Result is that a \$2,000,000,000 show was made year over year more lively than ever.

For the first nine months of 1946, the tax collection on admissions was \$28,055,610,854, compared with \$24,702,880 for the same period of 1945, the previous record year.

Broadway rode the record-breaking trend. Admissions taxes for the 3rd New York Revenue District—all Manhattan above 52nd street—were an unprecedented \$7,886,270, which was \$2,400,000 above September, 1945, and \$2,500,000 fatter than for the year of 1944. In addition, Uncle Sam picked up another \$34,863 in tax money from the Broadway theater offices.

Not included in any of these N. Y. totals was a reflection of the fine business done by Manhattan's picture spots. The 20% bite on nitery lattes hit \$665,189 for September, nearly \$100,000 better than the previous month and about \$55,000 more than September, 1945. While the night-latte take is very good, it is not a record.

Unknown for 'Valentino'
With George Bruns' "Valentino" script about finished, producer Ed-ward G. Small is holding four unknowns—three of them foreigners—under wraps as potential players for the role. Two of the candidates are Latin Americans, one French and the fourth is Los Angeles native.

Picture, for United Artists released, is slated to go into production in February.

One of the Latin Americans considered for the role is Hugo Cane. Argentine foreigner and film star, now in Buenos Aires for film making of "La Campesina". Offer made through Metropolitan Pictures, \$100,000 for 12 weeks, with an option for additional pix.

Jim Cain
Proves He Is Able to
"Raise Some Cain"
by THEODORE PRATT
in which he discusses
the much discussed AAA
an editorial feature of

VARIETY'S
41st Anniversary Number

French Antipathy To U. S. Film Biz Stirred By Commies—Mayer

Complaints by French producers against the Leon-Bino quota act are gradually subsiding, according to Gerald Mayer, chief of the foreign division of the Motion Picture Assn. of America. Just returned from a trip to England and France in company with MPA presy Eric Johnston, Mayer said the French producers had evidently discovered they were getting plenty of playing time for their own product and have decided to get back to work and not worry too much about a problem that doesn't exist.

Most of the complaints against the pact were stirred up by the Communist press in France, according to Mayer. Communists, he claimed, deliberately distorted the facts by reporting that the pact would limit the French were to be cut off completely from their own screens nine weeks out of every 12. What the pact actually says, he pointed out, is that French producers are to be guaranteed four weeks playing time out of each 12, with all product competing for the other nine weeks.

Communist attacks against the U. S. film industry are still going on, Mayer said. They were especially abusive, he added, when they learned that Johnston was in visit France, carrying on a severe attack against him.

SEC REVEALS U'S DEALS WITH WORK, COMERSALS

Universal filed a post-effective amendment with the Securities & Exchange Commission which reveals the arrangements between two of its top executives, Cliff Work and E. T. Genssler.

Deal was made, says producer and in charge of distribution in an advisory and consultative capacity says, that the deal was a compensation based on the consolidated net profits of Universal which he should have been entitled in respect to the fiscal years of 1946-1947. He will also receive \$50,000 for the calendar year of 1946-1947 inclusive.

Generally, who's on the board of directors, gets \$1,000 weekly and warrants on Universal-International stock.

SEC registration was filed with merger of Universal with International Pictures.

Joe Breen Recupers

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Joseph Breen, hospitalized for two months because of major surgery, is up and around again. Understood he will resume his chores this week as Code administrator for the Assn. of Motion Picture Producers.

LOSS FIGURES At \$3,000,000

At the short end of the stick because of the continued Technicolor plant walkout, American film companies have already suffered losses in foreign revenues variously estimated from \$3,000,000 to \$3,000,000. With failure in delivery of third prints to the majors in the past eight weeks adding on to a pre-existing time lag, number of the companies are currently complaining of an 18-month delay in releasing schedules of Technifilms in the foreign market. Damage to profits has been particularly heavy in Latin America, industry figures say, because backlog of other pix has not accumulated there as in Europe.

Pile-up of chronos for the majors is figured at some 24 for the majors. Blow because of this is particularly hard, film execs say, because the majors have always enjoyed the strongest box pull in foreign theaters. Generally spectacular, costly productions which find no competition from sources other than Hollywood, overseas revenues have meant some 40% of the entire take of these pix and that's been almost entirely missing for the past few months.

Initial lag, caused by limited capacity of the Technicolor plant during war days, was aggravated by the foreign execs and executives. Complicated by the studios considerably later than the original domestic film. (Continued on page 21)

KLINE, LEVIN COMPLETE FIRST PALESTINE FILM

Jerusalem, Nov. 21. Palestine's first feature film, "The Father's House," has been completed and sent to America for cutting and release. Production, which began in February, has taken place in the U. S. as it should, due to time curfew restrictions and the need for training local actors and actresses. One scene was shot on the Dead Sea.

To make a "composite" settlement, producers took scenes in over 15 Jewish villages. Meyer Levin, writer of "House" and joint producer with Herbert Kline, who returned to U. S. A., said the cooperation of the settlements was wonderful. Telling the story of a child refugee so obsessed with the search for his parents that he becomes a psychological case, the pic covers the whole of Palestine.

Star is a 15-year-old Jerusalem schoolboy, Benny Zuckerman, who was chosen after hundreds of children had been seen and interviewed in schools. Floyd Crosby, American cameraman, and David Scott, Metro sound engineer, had aid of a number of Palestinian technicians on the pic.

National Boxoffice Survey

Thanksgiving Week Ups Biz—"Undercurrent," "Skies," "Margie," "Deception," "Mist" the Big Five

Exhibitors are happy this season, brownouts, cold strikes and cold weather to the contrary, because of the big box office receipts. The big crowds boomed trend. New box-office champion is "Undercurrent" which took off in the U. S. with Robert Taylor back on the screen teamed with Katharine Hepburn. "Undercurrent" is getting around \$14,000 in 14 theatres covered by Variety.

Not far behind is "Blue Skies" (Par), proving as small where opened as it is currently at N. Y. Paramount. Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies" (Par), getting around \$10,000 in Detroit, where in Boston, leading San Francisco, terrific in Philadelphia. "Blue Skies" is getting around \$10,000 in 14 theatres covered by Variety. It's grossing \$90,000 in seventh week in N. Y. Others in the Big Five are "Margie" (20th), "Deception" (RKO) and "Two Years Before the Mast" (Par), each of five doing \$500,000 or better.

Others in the list, rated in order of money obtained, are "Jobn Brown" (Col), "Razors Edge" (RKO), "Dark Mirror" (U), "Never Say Goodbye" (WB), "Nocturne" (RKO),

Must Educate Public 'Pix Best Buy' Despite Upped Prices—A. J. Balaban

Harry M. Warner
details how
"Ambition Runs Its Course"
an editorial feature of

VARIETY'S
41st Anniversary Number

Wanger's 'Canyon' And Helling's 'Killers' Top 2 Universal Grossers

Top grosser in Universal's modern history is Walter Wanger's "Canyon Passage" which in 18 weeks has already grossed well above the \$2,000,000 mark in rentals. With continued strong returns from second and subsequent-run houses, pic bids fair to take U. S. coffers by some \$3,000,000 to \$3,200,000 domestically before its first half-year has ticked off. U. now figures "Canyon" should be good for \$5,000,000 on a worldwide basis.

Runner-up in the 1946-47 season, and possible second all-time grosser, is another recently distributed film, "The Killers." Mark Hellinger's epic on gangster warfare, "The Killers" grossed some \$975,000 nationally in (Continued on page 20)

METRO SEEKS GARFIELD FOR LANA'S 'COQUETTE'

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Metro is pitching for John Garfield to co-star with Lana Turner in next year in remake of "Coquette." Paired made "Postman Always Rings Twice" for boxoffice bellinging "Coquette" was released by United Artists in 1929. Garfield would do film immediately after finishing "Burning Journey" for Empire.

Hope's Teepee Party

Hollywood, Dec. 3. "The Palace" will follow "Road to Rio" to Bob Hope's late at Paramount. Connolly will start in latter in late spring, with Robert Welch producing.

With customers of both first run and movie theaters squawking about upped admission prices, and run-of-the-mill exhibs complaining about the present high terms for pictures, it's time for the industry to launch a concerted institutional advertising campaign to explain why such prices are necessary. According to A. J. Balaban, general manager of the Roxy, N. Y., campaign should emphasize the fact he thinks, that pictures still offer the best entertainment buy for the money.

Balaban cites the case of a New York cabdriver as typical of the way the average theater patron thinks on the subject. Cabbie recognized him in front of the Roxy and asked Balaban, "When are the price of movies coming down?"

"Prices will come down," Balaban answered, "as soon as we find it possible to show, we cut the price of a picture for less than the \$1,000 to \$600,000,000 it now costs." The Roxy, he said, has cut the price of a picture for less than the \$1,000 to \$600,000,000 it now costs. The Roxy, he said, has cut the price of a picture for less than the \$1,000 to \$600,000,000 it now costs. The Roxy, he said, has cut the price of a picture for less than the \$1,000 to \$600,000,000 it now costs.

COLUMBIA PICS' FANCY EARNINGS IMPRESSIVE

Although Columbia Pictures benefited by the elimination of the excess profits tax in only the last half of its fiscal year, since this ended the stock market's roller coaster ride, only were impressed by the virtual doubling of gross earnings, but by the doubling of net earnings. The working capital via a recapitalization plan during the year, Columbia was able to raise \$4,000,000 in working capital, rising to \$25,000,000. Net income rose to \$8,500,000 as against \$4,000,000 in 1945, amounting to \$2.25 per common share as against \$2.25 a year ago. The stock market's roller coaster ride, only were impressed by the virtual doubling of gross earnings, but by the doubling of net earnings. The working capital via a recapitalization plan during the year, Columbia was able to raise \$4,000,000 in working capital, rising to \$25,000,000. Net income rose to \$8,500,000 as against \$4,000,000 in 1945, amounting to \$2.25 per common share as against \$2.25 a year ago. The stock market's roller coaster ride, only were impressed by the virtual doubling of gross earnings, but by the doubling of net earnings. The working capital via a recapitalization plan during the year, Columbia was able to raise \$4,000,000 in working capital, rising to \$25,000,000. Net income rose to \$8,500,000 as against \$4,000,000 in 1945, amounting to \$2.25 per common share as against \$2.25 a year ago.

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INDEX

Milton Berle.....	2
Bills.....	47
Chadwell O'Connor.....	48
Film Reviews.....	13
Football-Harry Wisner.....	2
Foreign.....	38
George Frazier.....	38
House Reviews.....	48
Inside Legit.....	50
Inside Pictures.....	24
Inside Radio.....	50
Legitimate.....	49
Literati.....	53
Movie.....	53
New Acts.....	46
Night Club Reviews.....	46
Obituary.....	53
Orchestras.....	23
Pictures.....	3
Radio.....	26
Radio Reviews.....	26
Frank Seely.....	51
Vaudeville.....	44

WEEKLY VARIETY
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Complete Boxoffice Reports on
Pages 10-11.

66 Industry Leaders Convene in N. O. To Set Up Motion Picture Foundation

to L. A.	Arthur Wilk
zar	Alfred Schwalberg
rus, Jr.	Grad Sears
leSieur	Paul Soskin
en	J. J. Unger
r	Tom Waller
teynolds	Lew Wasserman
chnitzer	Max Youngman
le, Seattle	

7-Year WB Contract

Hollywood, Dec. 3
Jack Warner, on the eve of his departure for Europe, inked Joe Crawford to a new contract calling for seven years with options.

Currently lined up for the slot on the Burbank lot are "Need for Each Other" and "White Nights."

Fund-raising, of course, is the biggest immediate problem with which one of the three suggested forms of organization to be adopted. Fund-raising has been considered as needed. Alternatives considered are: one, all funds raised be considered as an endowment and only income is expended; two, use of funds by annual or biennial deficit campaigns; and three, annual contributions to provide for an annual budget as contemplated by the first plan. The first plan is the preferred one of the three plans, of course, would require the largest sum of money with which to start.

Methods discussed for acquiring the voluntary subscription within the industry and percentages of assessments of employees. One thing definitely decided in the majority that there is no need for a

(Continued on page 25)

(Continued on page 25)

British Prods. Split on Quota Law, Johnston Says; Preps Int'l Council

British film producers are split on the question of future film quotas, according to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association. Johnston seemed most receptive to the proposed international film quota. Johnston, who arrived Saturday (30) on the S.S. America after a five-week stay in England, said that his decision will be reached in the quota ruling until some time early in the summer of 1947, when he expects to return to Great Britain and remain until the question is settled.

Concerning the international film council, the MPA head said that methods of its operation and future possibilities are being studied by Sir Henry French, general manager of the British Motion Picture General Association, and Fays, representing U. S. producers. Two experts will have their report ready within the next eight weeks, Johnston said. He explained that the purpose of the council will be to encourage freer exchange of films between nations by doing away with existing barriers and the elimination of problems in the title registration. "This limitation on pictures that just went into effect in England is the kind of thing we'd like to see stopped by all nations," Johnston said. "In a firm way, the motion picture is a means of information and I think free exchange of films will lead

(Continued on page 24)

HUGHES HAS 'VENDETTA' BACK TO PRODUCTION

Hollywood, Dec. 3

Howard Hughes sent his "Vendetta" back into work on the Goldwyn lot as a new picture of approximately \$1,500,000 and Earl Bender taking over as producer-director. Preston Sturges left that post last Oct. 29 after spending more than \$1,000,000 on his film version of the Prosper Mérimée novel, but only a small portion of his footage will be retained.

Max Ophüls, director on the Sturges production, stepped aside after a few days of filming and assumed responsibility for the difficulties that followed. Most of the original cast is retained in the sequel. It includes the French Domyer, Hillary Brooke, Nigel Bruce and George Dolenz. About half the lineup is J. Carroll Nash, who withdrew to play "The Fugitive" for Argosy.

Eagle-Lion's Sales Meets As Co. Gets All Set to Go

Eagle-Lion, girding for its kick-off on pix distribution set for Jan. 1, has launched a series of sales meetings. The first campaign was completed last weekend in New York. Follow-up will be in Los Angeles, Dec. 7-8; Dallas, Dec. 11-12; and Chicago, Dec. 14-15. E-L-H, ex-his Alfred W. Schwaberg, vicepres and general manager; Ernest Cunningham, chief clerk; and Robert J. Benjamin, manager of J. Arthur Rank organization, straddled the Camelot tomorrow (Thursday) as the first stop in their circuit.

J. Arthur Krim, E-L proxy, now in Hollywood, will join the line for the next which will set company's sales with the Quartet exchange in New York Dec. 16. First of the company's releases will be "It's a Joke, Son!"

E-L now has four films in the can and "even more lined up for shooting next year. In the latter group are "Repeat Performance" with Joan Haywood; "Loudly Brought" with Louis Brody; "The Night of the Living Dead" with Casper's "Out of the Strangers"; "Prize Goodman" (a "Geminetti"); and "Prince Valiant," a production of a King Features comic strip.

Four already completed are "It's a Joke, Son!" "The Night of the Living Dead," "The Adventurers," and "Any Comes Across."

Plane as Pact Bonus

Hollywood, Dec. 3

New form of "bonus" was a plane given by a major studio to members of its top male stars. The actor wanted a two-engine job and the studio put \$45,000 on the line as inducement to consummate the contract.

British Film Biz

Favors An Int'l

Council, Sez Carr

British film industry favors Eric Johnston's proposal for an international film council but feels that the first steps toward formation of such an organization must come from the American industry, according to E. T. Carr, general joint managing director of General Film Distributors. J. Arthur Rank's master distributor company, Johnston created an excellent impression on the British during his recent trip to England. Carr said, and the British are all set to follow through on his proposal.

Rank's distrib chief arrived in New York last Wednesday (27) aboard the Queen Elizabeth. He left for London Friday (29) night for huddles with Nale Blumberg, Leo Spitz and William Goetz of Universal International and with John Foy and Arthur Krim of the American Eagle-Lion company. His wife and two children arrive in New York the day after tomorrow, Dec. 31, to join the Queen Beas and will remain in this country until early in January, when Carr's managing director in England.

Rank production officials will turn to between 25 and 30 pix this year, Carr said, adding he hoped to have all of them released in 1947. (Continued on page 24)

U.S. Pix Yens to Donate Millions of Chinese Yen

The U. S. motion picture industry has been trying for more than a month, but has been unable to give away millions of dollars—and it can't get permission. Catch is that the dollars are Chinese and may not be taken out of China. In the meantime, in the face of the extreme inflation, the Chinese government has additional dollars are piling up each week.

Film industry, as a result, is seeking permission, through the Motion Picture Assn., to make a large donation. The coin is handled by the MPA in charge of International Affairs, and the latter's prospect that they'll ever be exportable, the American MPA in charge of International Affairs, is allowing it to amass in Chinese funds.

Following the decision was given the money, the CEMM was contacted. The CEMM naturally indicated it would be greatly pleased to expend the coin to improve, via education, the situation of the Chinese people. Application was then made by Gov. Carl E. Milliken, secretary of the MPA, in charge of International Affairs, to the Chinese government to be allowed to transfer the funds. No reply has been received as yet.

Golden, Dombow Split

Hollywood, Dec. 3

Edward Golden is severing connections with the Dombow firm in the Golden Pictures Corp., and will organize a new company, with his partner Robert, handling distribution while he takes care of distribution and financial problems.

Golden has been connected with several Golden productions released through RKO and United Artists.

STRIKES OVER IT'S NECESSARY

Mounting revolt of exhibs against the majors' use of a sliding scale deal for percentage pix has reached a point in the last several months where some indie exhibs have flatly refused to book certain top pictures, even though these films may have broken records in their key city first run. Chief squawk of the exhibs is that, even though they're taking in more dollars than ever at the boxoffice, the present sliding scale arrangements cut them out of the profit they consider should be their proportionate share of the earnings.

Sliding scale would be okay, exhibs aver, if the increased percentage started at the first dollar above the base percentage figure. In recent years, however, the majors have brought into play the deal whereby a picture is sold at a certain percentage if a film grosses a certain amount. If the gross exceeds that amount, however, the percentage is upped and the new take for the distrib starts at the first dollar taken in at the base.

One indie exhib, for example, had tried to book Paramount's "Blue Sky" but turned down the film completely when he felt he could have it only on the above terms. Exhibs offered the picture at a sliding scale 40% on everything up to \$2,000. For every 4¢ above \$2,000 that the film grossed, however, the distrib's take was up to 1% accordingly, but with the terms starting back at \$2,000, exhibs would be the first 4% jump.

"Slits" grossed \$2,000, consequently the exhib's take would be \$1,200, while the major would get 40%, or \$800. If the film earned \$4,000, the exhib would get \$1,200, or 30%, the exhib would take 41%, or \$1,640. At \$6,000, the exhib would get \$1,200, or 20%, the exhib would take 41%, or \$2,520. At \$8,000, the exhib would get \$1,200, or 15%, the exhib would take 41%, or \$3,280. (Continued on page 13)

RANK'S 'WICKED LADY' AT RENTALS UP TO 50%

Rentals up to 50% will be sought for "Wicked Lady," first Universal release of J. Arthur Rank, which is in the U. S. market, William J. Heinenman, sales chief of the division, said today, week prior to entering for the division's Chicago division, said today, week prior to entering for the division's Chicago sales meet. Policy will be to set the film will call for a half-scale mark on exhibs and a 50% scale on exhibs similar to United Artists' policy. Sales executives will be told, Heinenman added, that terms from exhibs that are less than the 50% will be no less than what the exhibs have been paying for equivalent American product. Heinenman said that the Technicolor prints of "Stairway to Heaven" from England and the film, which was originally slated to leave off the Rank array in October, may be roadshow as the best way of pre-selling the picture to exhibs.

Decision will be made before the opening of the Chicago meet. Should roadshowing get the nod, pic would be played in only a half dozen spots.

Prints of "Wicked Lady" of Chi confab on Saturday (7), Heinenman pushes off for the Coast to studio huddles.

Tallulah Bankhead Claude Binyon Carl Brisson Kay Kyser

remains broadly about
Show Business
Antecedents

VARIETY'S
41st Anniversary Number
Soon Due

Connors Asks Double Playing Time Of Previous Long Run for 'Razor'

60% for 'Razor'

In line with the demands by 20th-Fox that "Razor's Edge" be guaranteed double playing time in all situations, the company is also seeking a straight 60% deal for all bookings of the film.

Exhibs are squawking about the terms but claim they're forced to buy, since the product shortage has transformed the industry into a seller's market over which they have no control.

UA Wants Rental Distrib Increase From Stremberg

With his five-year releasing pact with United Artists winding up next May, producer Hunt Stromberg has been informed that a renewal of the contract will require a considerable boost in terms. Stromberg, who is a "most favored nations" clause, entitling him to distribution at 25% for the first \$100,000 in rentals and 10% after that. New deal will be on a straight 25% basis, with foreign, as it is now, at varying percentages according to territory.

If terms are similar to those UA is getting from all producers as old contracts expire, "Most favored" clause was given as an inducement when UA was low on product, but is no longer considered necessary or sensible. Stromberg, however, the rest of UAers who had "most favored" clause, is expected to continue with the company under the boosted terms.

Stromberg has two pix to deliver on the contract. They are "The Dishonored Lady," starring Hedy Lamarr, now editing, and "Personal Column," starring Lucille Ball and George Sanders, which is presently before the camera. His "Strange Affair" in release, is doing very strong business.

Walter Lantz's Shift From U to UA Release

Walter Lantz, who has been releasing cartoon shorts to United Artists early next year, UA board last Friday (29) that he will part with the Lantz comedy foundry for the first time in 1947. His departure as a bellwether at U is one of many changes going on as a result of the company's recent merger with International.

Lantz has five more cartoons to deliver to U under his ticket with that studio. He'll have them ready in the first few months of 1947. His departure as a bellwether at U is one of many changes going on as a result of the company's recent merger with International.

Film Appeal Launched

Hollywood, Dec. 3

Motion picture industry leaders are launching an appeal campaign with two winners added by volunteer workers from the Paramount and United Artists studios.

M. C. Levee, chairman of the drive, was the principal speaker at the Paramount meeting. Edward Arnold and Regis Toomey addressed the Disney gathering.

RAMSAY JOHNS GREENTHAL
Clark Ramsey, Universal's advertising manager, has been named as one of the newly formed Monroe Greenthal Co., ad agency. Ramsey is in for induction as vice president of the company's Los Angeles office, now set for early opening.

The agency specialists in the Paramount with Universal-International and J. Arthur Rank organization as top clients.

In one of the most optimistic steps yet taken to stimulate longer runs for a picture, 20th-Fox has decided that each picture on "Razor's Edge" must include as a positive guarantee the producer or the theatre asking the film for double the playing time of the previous top long-run film in each territory.

Sectional sales, district and branch managers are to be personally responsible for all bookings of "Razor's Edge" with each deal to be negotiated personally by the manager's representative in each territory. All deals will finally have to be okayed personally by Tom J. Connors, 20th vesper over sales. Special contract forms for sale of "Edge" were distributed to the 20th sectional and branch managers at last week's homeoffice sales meet.

To help the individual exhibs secure the maximum amount of playing time, the film is to be given the same type exhibition sendoff in each territory. It received a pre-release opening at the (Theatre, N.Y., on Nov. 19. Following that, it was shown in 100 territories, plans to back the film with a top publicity campaign. The company plans, meanwhile continuing its national ad campaign via newspapers, magazines, radio and motion picture reach the home of every potential ticket buyer.

20th-Fox has ad-publicity department, under direction of Charlie (Continued on page 24)

'RAZOR' WOULD CUT ITSELF MORE RECORDS

With a record for the longest gross run in history, "Razor's Edge" has now reached up its belt as record of last week's unprecedented \$165,000 take, "Razor's Edge" appeared last (Tuesday) night as though it would top even that mark in its second week at the Roxy, N. Y.

Roxy boxoffice collected \$13,000 on Monday and another \$14,000 on Tuesday (Tuesday) night. Last night, Monday's figure fell slightly below \$10,000 because of the unheralded cold wave that fell suddenly on New York. With warmer weather, Monday's boxoffice at the Roxy expected to make up the difference and to chalk up at least \$16,000 for the second week of the film's run.

Roxy management, along with the 20th-Fox publicity office, is now training its guns on a record that will top all records during Christmas. The film is slated for release through the country on Monday (7) Day, a box week at the Roxy that the word is going to be considerably in boosting "Edge" at the half-dozen forthcoming first run situations.

Johnston's Reason For MPA Annual Meet in D.C.

Reports that film company executives are planning to make known the fact that the Dec. 12 annual meeting of the Motion Picture Assn. was set by Eric Johnston for Washington, and not New York, were denied by Carl E. Milliken, secretary of the MPA.

MPA annual meetings, heretofore have been held only in N. Y., and in the last few years have been held in the nation's capital because Johnston wanted him topers to see the organization's new headquarters there.

Start Leaves Metro

Hollywood, Dec. 3

Irving Starr, 18 months on the Metro lot, obtained a release from his producer contract and will go in for indie production.

It was Starr's second departure from the Culver City studio. In the last year, he had been working as a producer at 20th-Fox. His last picture at Metro was "The Cockney Miracle."

FIRST!**LOOK****MOTION PICTURE DAILY**

Review

"Abie's Irish Rose"

(Bing Crosby Prod.—United Artists)

...this reviewer looks for audiences all over the land to take "Abie's Irish Rose" to their hearts. And hopes so. For the "message" which the Crosby production drives home is basic to the future of the world... it builds an emotional content which dries the throat, wets the eyes and makes one want to stand up and cheer.

IT'S ALL THAT NEED BE SAID!

NOW!

BOOK

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE

IT'S THE ALL-TIME LAUGH HIT... STREAMLINED FOR NOW!

5 wonderful years on Broadway!

... 32 wonderful months on the air!

and day after day of wonderful business

ON YOUR SCREEN!

Bing Crosby Producers Inc.
presents ANNE NICHOLS'
"ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"
with MICHAEL CHEKHOV
and
introducing JOANNE DRU*
and RICHARD NORRIS
Produced and Directed by A. EDWARD SUTHERLAND
Screenplay by Anne Nichols

*By arrangement with Howard Hawks

from

UA

HAVE YOU BOOKED

The Screen's  Honored Achievement Returns...
that you may see it again and again!

DAVID O. SELZNICK
presents

Rebecca

LAURENCE OLIVIER · JOAN FONTAINE
GEORGE SANDERS · JUDITH ANDERSON

Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK
From the best selling novel by Daphne Du Maurier · Released thru United Artists

...thousands of
theatres and
circuits have!

...WARNERS HAS!
...LOEW'S HAS!
...BRANDT HAS!
...WOMETCO HAS!
...ODEON HAS!
...TRI-STATE HAS!
...MINNESOTA
AMUSE. HAS!
...INTERSTATE HAS!
...RKO HAS!

You get it from

UA

**2ND WEEK OF
THE ROXY, N.Y., TOPS TH
OF THE FIRST WEEK...
TIME RECORD* FOR ANY
ANYWHERE IN THE WOR
SHOW BUSINESS!**

*** *Net Boxoffice Receipts!***



THE RAZOR'S EDGE" AT E PHENOMENAL FIGURES WHICH SET A NEW ALL- PICTURE, ANY THEATRE, LD IN THE HISTORY OF



CENTURY-FOX

Aussie Exhibs Balk on 'Overlanders' Terms; May Seek Quota on Brit. Pix

Sydney, Dec. 3.

Australian Exhibitors Assn. claims it will call for banning of Ealing's Aussie-made film, "Overlanders," if move is made to increase rental terms unfairly. It is alleged Ealing plans adding 70-30% rental terms on further playdates of film. Pic is a big success in the keys and country.

No suburban dates have been set as yet. Exhibitors Assn. is agreeable to certain increases on print contracts because of film's boxoffice value but not in the 70% bracket. Not only will the assn. ask the government to look into the quota set but it also will request the government to install regulations which would give the same rejection rights on British films as now operate against U. S. product. The quota now works against American distribution by covering 25% rejection on product contracted for. Assn. admits it has no fight with the British Empire Films, distributors of "Overlanders" for Ealing.

Holland Legit Still In Dutch in Cleanup Drive

Amsterdam, Nov. 21.

Long awaited renascence of Dutch legit has failed to materialize to the extent hoped for. Failure to locate several million Dutch companies into larger units, along with a "purification" campaign launched by authorities, has after the war's end, have been a decided hindrance to the Dutch branch. However, despite the cleanup drive, which incidentally is ridiculed by everyone, such troupes as Reclams-Theatree in The Hague and Comedia and S.T.A.R.T. here are doing fair business with French and English plays and with U. S. import. Among some of the American productions brought over, "Armstrong and the Navy" and "Our Teeth" were hits here and in The Hague respectively. "Moon over Miami" and "Bed for Adam" were rated as flops.

U Renews McIntyre

Sydney, Nov. 19.

Universal is reported to have signed here McIntyre to contract renewal, extending over a long term. McIntyre just completed an unsuccessful convention here under McIntyre's guidance.

McIntyre, a veteran in Aussie show biz, is widely known here.

Welter En Route Via Paris

George Welter, Paramount International proxy, left Philadelphia on Wednesday (27) and is returning to Paris prior to leaving for the U. S. He'll confab there with Adolph Zukor, Par board chairman. Welter is due back in N.Y. Dec. 12.

British Film Briefs

London, Nov. 22.

Tony Bentley, husband of Deborah Kerr, who accompanied her to America, was crack RAF pilot in the war. He now represents a Bristol plane company and has been paid just \$2,000,000 worth of planes to South Africa. . . The Hollywood picture is likely to be directed by Phyllis Calvert and Ann Todd who are wanted to star here in two J. Edgar. Rank film "The Morning After" for the Powell-Freemantle "Red Shoes". . . Dermot Walsh, who recently completed featured role in "Fanny Hill" which Brian Desmond Hurst directed for Two Cities Film, and Maxwell Reed, starred in Sydney Dodd's last "The Brothers" and "Jacey" are touted as James Mason's next picture. . . Alfred Jung, film director and set designer, signed by Alexander Korda. . . Walt Disney and company of five off to work for two weeks in connection with his forthcoming film, "The Little People". . . Laurence Duna, who has been in Hollywood, busy on film script of Douglas Fairbanks' new pic, "The Little Girl". . . Jacqueline Roy, French star of "Just William," radio serial, turned down Hollywood offer to star in part of a picture of Claude Lawrence in film of actress' life.

Duffin Back to Moss

Paris, Nov. 26.

Matt Duffin, who appeared in the film "Bergers" about 1939 and was in Special Services during the war, is back in Paris, and scouting for work for Moss Empire. Also plans to form French films for other countries.

Frankly (Dodo) Felton, also formerly Furies to Bergers, is also in Paris arranging to train and book lines of French films. Unstudious make French talent doubly anxious to work abroad.

Aussie Actors Equity

Agrees to Parley With Pix Producers on Pay

Sydney, Nov. 24.

Now that the first heat is off the fighting between Aussie Actors' Equity and film producers here, including Ealing, Columbia and Charles Chauvel on salaries for Aussie pic players Equity has agreed to call off strike threat for time being in order to permit huddles with producers' reps.

Harry Watt, here agent, is going to make "Eureka Strained," oldtime yarn, had threatened to quit the field on any holdup threat, but, with Harry Watt, here agent, it is being imposed against all exhibitors who do not comply with the decree.

Heavy fines are to be levied against all exhibitors who fail to comply with the decree. Heavy fines are to be levied against all exhibitors who fail to comply with the decree.

Understanding here is that the major idea behind the action of A. E. is to make the field tough for any exhibitor who would like to cash in on the present boom in Aussie pic production, which will take Ealing, Columbia, Rank, Korda.

Understood that Alexander is concerned solely in protecting the rights of his members, who include radio, legit and vaude-vie too. Alexander is not attempting to cripple the movie production field.

Feeling here is that a workable agreement will be arranged between A. E. and the film producers within the next few weeks.

Try Twice Weekly Pix Change in French House

Paris, Nov. 26.

Exhibitors in the provincial city of Poitiers are trying to increase attendance by instituting a policy of changing their bill twice a week, instead of the weekly change usually practiced all over France. To date the result has been good, and it followed elsewhere the practice of changing bills twice a week in distribution in this territory.

Double feature bills are illegal in Poitiers.

Brazil Pix Houses Show Need for Better Sound

Rio de Janeiro, Nov. 19.

Poor dubbing job done on an American picture, based on the Brazilian novel called "The Six" by Brazilian author Mme. Joana de Almeida, pointed up the antiquated sound system in most Brazilian theatres. Save for a relative few of the better picture houses, most theatres do not have sound equipment to make the Portuguese used in Brazilian news reels understandable to the audience. Observers wonder the expense of dubbing is needed when the voices will turn out to be unusable.

Americans and Brits who fail to see a picture at the cinema have missed it completely since unable to go to the names or short-titles. The sound track can't be understood there because the reproducing equipment is so bad. French sound systems are needed but refurbishing is a long way off.

"American Film Comedies and Musicals Help Germany Forget Its Current Misery"

is discussed on an editorial feature of
"VARIETY'S"
41st Anniversary Number

52 ARGENT. FILMS IN OCT. SETS RECORD

Montevideo, Nov. 26.

October saw a record month in Argentina's film industry, with no less than 52 pic released, as compared to the 36 average in preceding months. The Hollywood product, three British, five French, six Mexican, three Spanish and two Russian. Balance of films was local product and scarcely enough to back up the new dictum that Argentine pic must be given priority over imports.

Don Alfredo Boggio, the entertainment czar, held a press conference shortly after taking office last month, and stressed his intention of enforcing the protection decree, which created preference percentages and enforced exhibition of a proportion of Argentine pic in all movie houses. Heavy fines are to be imposed against all exhibitors who do not comply with the decree.

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Madrid Productions Of Argentine Legits Mailed

Buenos Aires, Nov. 19.

Francisco Gallo, of the "Asiatic" theatre in Buenos Aires, is currently in Madrid on a bio tour and is trying to bring back a theatre in which to present Iris Marga and Miguel Faust Rocha, both of the Argentine Comedians. Heavy fines are to be imposed against all exhibitors who fail to comply with the decree.

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German Film Industry Needs More Tauton Outlets to Live, Sez Pommer

Vienna, Nov. 17.

Seen's Believin'

Sydney, Nov. 21.

Managers of Austria's film industry, operating 150 houses in keys and outlands, don't have to give heavy staffs pep talks anymore. Ernest Turnbull, loop's top producer, decided to make a film showing the light and dark side of the country. He had some of his own staff enact the top roles. . . Short, produced by Turnbull, directed by George Malcolm, indie Hayward, loop's advertising chief, runs 15 minutes. It's titled, "Guests in Our House." Copy sent to National Theatres in U. S. for holds stock in Hoyts) and similar idea will be used via that loop.

Austria Okays Mozart 1791 Tune for Use As New National Anthem

Vienna, Nov. 12.

The new Austrian Republic, only a year old, has taken steps toward acquiring a national anthem. It has a melody, but still lacks a text. . . The new Austrian Republic, only a year old, has taken steps toward acquiring a national anthem. It has a melody, but still lacks a text.

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Austrian Prez Dr. Renner Pens Words to New Chorale

Vienna, Nov. 21.

Dr. Karl Renner, President of Austria, wrote the words to "Inter-national," a choral composition for men's and women's voices by Dr. Heinrich Schuchter, which will be sung at the Muskeviere building Nov. 16 at festival of the Socialist party.

Program listed the name of O. W. Payer, which is Dr. Renner's pseudonym. He has used it since July 1918, when he was in the war under the Habsburgs he saw fit to adopt one.

Mike Hoffer Quits RKO After 10 Years

Mike Hoffer, head of RKO's foreign department, resigned last week after having been with the company 10 years. Phil Reisman, foreign department chief, said that no appointment had been made to fill the vacancy as yet. Hoffer apparently wanted to transfer his ad-pubcity activities to London, and only left when such transfer was not given.

Duffin Honored by French

Paris, Nov. 26.

Matt Duffin, formerly with a dance, now known as the Duffin but now an actor, has recently won the Reconnaissance Francaise by the French Government in recognition of his war and postwar work.

As director of civilian shows in U. S. Army Special Services, Duffin has been in 1,500 French and allied artists while with that branch.

Reich Pommer, U. S. Army's Film Officer for the U. S. Zone of Germany, visited Vienna recently on

business, met critics in U. S.-occupied sectors of Germany and Austria. Pommer conferred with Col. L. H. Ladue, ISB chief, and Wolfgang Wolf, acting Film Officer for Austria, on current and future coordination of German and Austrian production and distribution policies under American aegis.

"Neither the German for the Austrian market alone will suffice to support a worthwhile German language picture industry," Pommer said. "But taken together with outlets in Switzerland, Sweden and a few other German speaking countries for advances there is a real future in production and distribution if we don't let our interests conflict and make best possible use of politically clean talents available in our zone."

Pommer said cameras should start rolling on German production by March of 1947. Nature or personnel said. "But taken together with outlets in Switzerland, Sweden and a few other German speaking countries for advances there is a real future in production and distribution if we don't let our interests conflict and make best possible use of politically clean talents available in our zone."

Synchronization of German dialogue with English subtitles and English subtitles with German dialogue has been a problem in Austria. Pommer told Vanux, "Except for first run houses in Vienna, Salzburg, Linz, Munich and Vienna, under-titling in Austria is factory. You can't really tell the story properly in subtitles and subtitles in German are not as accurate as the smattering of English which makes proper appreciation possible. . . The factory is a careful job of dubbing will sell more pictures for more money despite ability of English subtitles to give a false picture between voice and images. It's not the Americans but the Germans who are the real problem in Austria. The product is to hold its strong lead in this part of Europe."

Pommer said that a better feeling and less competition between U. S. and Soviet film activities in Germany has been helped by Austria where rival American and Russian studios bid for talent and personnel. He said that the American product is to hold its strong lead in this part of Europe.

Down Mexico Way

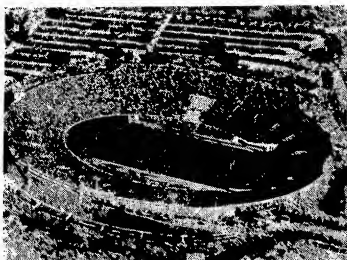
Mexico City, Nov. 26.

Chang Ueno, top lawyer, representing Cinesa Films Mundiales for \$20,400, claiming contract violations by Cinesa, has been in Mexico City, a pic actress, hosting her friends who came all the way from Spain to see her. . . All stage theatres and most cinemas in the country got big Christmas parties. . . "Don Juan Tenorio," 16th Century Spanish tragedy at the record-high nick of \$1.20 per customer. Presentation has been an annual November affair in the Mexican theatre for four centuries.

Producer Fernando (Indian) Cernas planning to Hollywood soon to confab with John Ford as to what both would make. . . Immigration red tape is delaying his departure for Hollywood. . . Migration of Filmes, and Jose Grovas, going to make a picture with Cuban and Mexican players. . . Roberto Rodriguez, of the Rodriguez family, is going to make a picture with Mexican players, back from Chile. . . Miguel Contreras Torres, feature producer, is going to make a picture with Mexican players, back from Chile. . . Alfredo Ripstein, a film producer, to Durango state to make "The Good Guy."

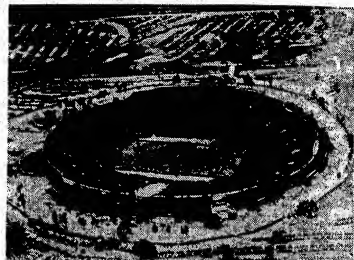
THE ROSE BOWL

U. C. L. A. — ILLINOIS



THE SUGAR BOWL

NORTH CAROLINA — GEORGIA



Warners



"HUMORESQUE"

"THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL"

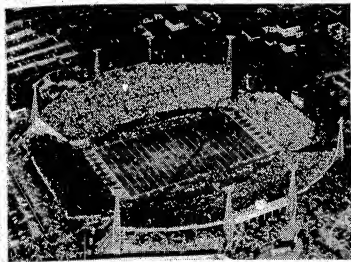
IN TECHNICOLOR

"THE MAN I LOVE" ★ "NO"

"THE BEAST WITH"

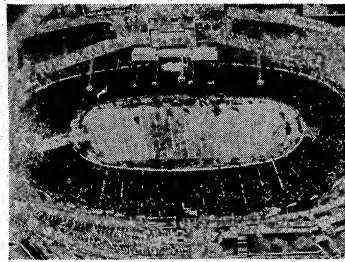
THE ORANGE BOWL

TENNESSEE — RICE



THE COTTON BOWL

ARKANSAS — L. S. U.



THE GRAVY BOWL!!

THE VERDICT"
A PRENTISS"
5 FINGERS"

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*



GOOD NEWS!



EXTRA!
"UNDERCURRENT"
 BREAKS 27-YEAR
 RECORD AT
 CAPITOL, N. Y.

Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor and Robert Mitchum packing them in!

"UNDERCURRENT" SWEEPS IN!

Film Daily was right! They said "Get out the ropes that hold the lines for 'Undercurrent'." That's what happened in its great Los Angeles premiere; also at the Capitol, N. Y. and everywhere. M-G-M star values as usual: Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor, Robert Mitchum.



Roar with Red Skelton in "The Show-Off"

HOWLS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

You can't beat a hilarious comedy for Christmas—and "The Show-Off" is the Pay-Off! Give 'em laughs for the holidays. It's a BIG show with Red at his roaringest! And gorgeous Marilyn Maxwell as the Blonde with whom he blunders into romance! M-G-Merry Xmas!



Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon and June Allyson in "The Secret Heart"

STARS SHINE AT NEW YEARS

A Great New Years Attraction with Big Star Names! That's what M-G-M showmen get when Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson—all top fan favorites—enact this wonderful love story by Rose Franken, best-seller fiction writer for the millions.

I've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You
 Loved You--I've Always Loved
 I've Always Loved You---I've
 Loved You--I've Always Loved
 I've Always Loved You---I've
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 I've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You
 I've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You
 Love I've Always Loved You
 I've Always Loved You--I've Always Loved You
 Loved I've Always Loved You
 I've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You
 I've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You

**at Loew's Capitol
 Washington, D.C.
 second great week**

**Over and
 over again
 ALWAYS
 Big Box Office
 everywhere!**

**United Artists Theatre
 Detroit
 holdover for second
 big week**

**in STAMFORD, Conn.
 in EUGENE, Ore.
 in HOT SPRINGS, Ark.
 in BOISE, Idaho
 in TWIN FALLS, Idaho
 ... and hundreds
 of other towns!**

**at Mayfair
 Baltimore
 now in its 7th
 sensational
 box office week**

**FRANK BORZAGE'S
 I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU**

PHILIP DORN • CATHERINE McLEOD • WILLIAM CARTER
 MME. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA • FELIX BRESSART • FRITZ FELD
 ELIZABETH PATTERSON • VANESSA BROWN • LEWIS HOWARD

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Produced by FRANK BORZAGE
 Screenplay by ANNE M. BROWN
 Music by MAX YERGAN
 A BELL-MODERN FILM

TECHNICOLOR

Bob Williams Back As Ark., Tenn., Miss. MPTOA Prexy; Other Xchange Items

Memphis. R. X. (Bob) Williams Jr., owner of film theatre at Oxford (Miss.) and former mayor there, was re-elected last week to presidency of national Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee. His position he held from 1937 through 1942. He succeeds J. Allen West, state prexy for the last two years. The convention elected Arthur B. Houghton, Miss. P. T. O. president; J. Covington, Tenn., and W. E. Martin, Louisiana, alternate presidents. Orris Collins, of Paragould, Ark., was made state secretary; W. F. Ruffin Sr., of Covington, was elected to national MPTOA directorate.

Speakers at the convention included Fred Weintraub, of St. Louis; MPTOA president, and Henry Reed, of Menard, Texas, president of Texas theatre owners. The tri-state showmen voted strong resolutions opposing the Federal 2% tax as a wartime measure no longer needed, attacked ASCEA's collection of fees for music rights and condemned the employment of local checkers by film exchanges.

Col's Chi Sales Meet Columbia will hold its fourth sales meet Dec. 4-7 at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, during which operation of the newly instituted sales policy will be reviewed and future plans set for changes to meet Government decree developments. Col was among the first of the picture companies to make specific sales policy changes to meet last summer's anti-lent decision.

Heading west from the home office will be general sales manager Abe Montague, who will preside; Rube Jucker, Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg, Irving Warner, Mace Criss, Leo Jaffe, George Joseph, H. C. Kaufman, Joseph Freiberg, Seth Ralder, Irving Sherman, Vincent Butler, Irving Moross and Sidney Sigmund. All of them and branch managers will also attend.

Joe Outshun flew in Cincy Cincinnati. Cincy's film row and exodus from West Virginia, Indiana and Kentucky turned out 250 strong last Monday (2) night at a testimonial dinner for Joe Outshun, who recently became district manager for J. Arthur Black division of Universal Pictures in Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and New York after nearly 15 years with Paramount, last 14 years being as ex-

change manager here. Cocktails party prelin to dinner was at Variety Club Tent No. 3, which Outshun is a past Chief Barker.

Ray Moon To Supervise Albany Assumption by Joe Rosen, for years a 20th-Fox man, now at Fox, Washington, Boston and Denver, brought another change here: Ray Moon, N. Y. city branch chief, now also supervising the Albany exchange. It has been taken from underling K. K. Callahan, who was district manager with headquarters in Boston. Shift made because felt that Albany could be more logically supervised from N. Y.

Albany Variety's Ball Albany, N. Y. First annual ball of the Albany Variety Club Saturday (7) at the De Witt Clinton hotel. More than 400 expected including a delegation from the N. Y. State Film Exchange, and Jack Kalchauer among C. J. Latta, second vice National Chief Barker, will welcome the attendees and rep the national body.

Interstate Expands in Dallas Dallas. Continuing its expansions plans here, the Interstate Theatre Circuit has purchased a tract of land for \$15,000 and has leased 300 feet adjoining the tract for a 15-year period. Site is about two miles from downtown Dallas, near the Interstate theatre, recently opened.

Briefs From the Lot Continued from page 1

with a preview of "Holiday in Las Vegas" in that town. Hal Wallis took an option on "Lola," a forthcoming novel by Philip Van Doren Stern, slated for publication by Little, Brown & Co.

PRC borrowed Terry Austin from Eagle-Lion for a top role in "The Return of Philo Vance." Leo Durocher turned down Seymour Chaskin's offer of a role in "Leave No One Unknown," because of previous racial commitments. Carl Schaefer turned down a contract for "Deadlock" for Hal Wallis. Jack Natford and Luci Ward completed a screenplay on "Return of the Badmen," which Nat Holt will produce for RKO. Story of rat poison with live rodents as theps, will be filmed by John Sutherland as an industrial short for Dupont.

Mary Scott draws the femme lead "Gun Fighters" PRC. John Sutherland's first production for PRC release will be "Love Lessons," slated to start in April. William Castle's illness caused the postponement of Columbia's "Crime Doctor Returns" to Jan. 2. J. P. Wolfson gave the go sign to "Saloon," starring Alan Ladd and Veronica Lake and directed by Leslie Fenton at Paramount. PRC is extending the shooting schedule and upping the budget on "Red Station" from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. Verne Farner checked in as assistant to Cliff Lewis at Argosy.

66 Leaders Continued from page 4

one about the motion picture industry. The governing body will probably take the form of a national board of trustees made up, in part, of one representative from each of the 31 exchange cities. Each district representative will be chairman of his district committee. There will also be 10 representatives of distributors and 10 trustees-at-large who will be outstanding industry personalities. The entire country will be divided into five or six regions with trustees for the districts in each region comprising a regional committee. It's pretty well agreed that there's little likelihood of the near future of merging Hollywood's Motion Picture Relief Fund, which takes care of production personnel, with the new foundation, although that would be desirable. However, Al Johnston, assistant to Richard Waks, IATSE president, representing the union in New Orleans, expressed willingness of the union to cooperate. Balaban said that he hopes the organization will be set up as to encourage requests in will of people in the industry.

NAACP's White Continued from page 1

people's conditions. Since I am light enough to pass as a white, I attended exhibitions of this film in Richmond, Atlanta and Houston—and in every instance, a preponderance of the white audience applauded the statement."

Supporting his contention, White also cited 20th-Fox's "Cabin in the Sky," which starred Lena Horne, Eddie Anderson (Hochester) and Ethel Waters. Twentieth, according to White, expected controversial pickup in the South, because film depicted Negroes in exquisite gowns and evening dress instead of the customary bandannas. But there were no criticisms made nor any attacks from below the Mason & Dixon line, White said.

"Picture makers assert quite correctly that they receive letters only from bigots," NAACP sec'y said. "But the grim truth is that ignorance on which racial friction feeds is being perpetuated. It's for that reason that we consider it important for us (NAACP) to open a Hollywood bureau. We feel that Hollywood can do better and should."

Spotlight was again turned on Dixie treatment of Negroes last week when the NAACP lambasted Walt Disney's "Song of the South" as perpetuating the stereotype casting of the Negro in the servent role, depicting him as indolent, one who handles the truth

All 5 Newsreels Forced by Mounting. Costs to Up Their Film Rentals Pronto

Latest motion picture products to feel the bite of increased production costs are newsreels.

All five of the major companies producing newsreels have either begun hiking rentals or plan to do so in the immediate future. Increases will not be general but will depend on each individual situation, with theatres playing the reels first run naturally expected to receive more of a hike than those getting second and third runs on them.

Exact plans for boosting rentals have not yet been disclosed, but it's believed they'll become effective with the general increases in rental on shorts announced several weeks ago. Metro, for one, announced last week it was putting one man in charge of shorts sales in each of its

territories. While complementing the artistic merit of the film, NAACP complained that it gave "a dangerously glorified picture of slavery." Spokesman for the Disney studio expressed surprise over objections to the film. Picture, he said, did not take place during slavery days but after the Civil War and the most sympathetic character in it is a Negro.

31 exchanges under the supervision of assistant salesmanager Eddie Aaron. It's believed likely that these men will also study the newsreel situation to see what kind of increases can be worked out equitably.

Increased costs of newsreel production is only natural in light of the general increased costs, except point out, and are not the result of greater coverage by the reel companies following the end of the wartime pooling arrangements. None of the companies cut down on personnel when they entered the pools, according to M. D. Cline, managing editor of Metro's News of the Day.

Newsreels are unique, Cline pointed out. In that the price has always been the same to theatres no matter what's included in them. Majors have never attempted to rent the reels on a strictly business basis, consequently, but have considered them a valuable connection between the industry and the public. Because of this, the majors have never foregone their attempts to liquidate the reels as they have their features by effecting a general rental increase, but conditions today make such an increase necessary.

THREE NEW HITS FROM Random House

The hilarious saga of Benny Greenspan the Hollywood Agent

ARTHUR LOBER

THAT MAN IS HERE AGAIN

\$2.50




His first new book in ten years

White Hot Cities

SEASON IN THE SUN

AND OTHER PLEASURES

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A novel about a truckster-magician-king of escape artists

Maurice Zolotow

THE GREAT BALSAMO

\$2.75

At all bookstores, RANDOM HOUSE, New York



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Lord Tarkenton

MIAMI BEACH

OCEAN FRONT - 40th to 41st St.

Reservations Invited - Walter Jacobs

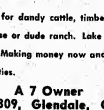


RANCH FOR SALE

\$21,900 for dandy cattle, timber-sawmill, horse or dude ranch. Lake Tahoe district. Making money now and good possibilities.

A 7 Owner

Box 309, Glendale, Calif.



New in Preparation

Filmack

PREVIEW TRAVELER SERVICE

Get an idea how you can make your plans for today this very source of supply.

FILMACK

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Top 15 and the Opposition

10.6 Crime Doctor
.....
10.2 Sam Spade
.....
13.7 Blondie
.....
13.5 Manhattan Merry-Go-Round
.....
15.4 FBI in Peace and War
10.9 Sinatra
.....

CBC Denies Intent to Blow Own Top As 'Variety' Story Creates Can. Stir

Denver, Dec. 3.—Sears Roebuck & Co. in Denver and KFEL recently negotiated a major time-selling deal which gives the store six half-hours a week participation in Ray Perkins' platform show on a Monday through Saturday basis. Otto Shaw ad agency handles the contract talks for Sears Roebuck. Another quarter-hour segment of the Perkins' show, which runs 1½ hours daily, was sold a few days earlier to Industrial Federal Savings and Loan Assn. through the Har-

World Net Project Pushed at UNESCO

Establishment of a world-wide radio network was given powerful impetus this week at the Paris meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

According to word received at the UN secretariat in N. Y., UNESCO Committee on Mass Communication at Paris adopted a Franco-American proposal that the feasibility of a global radio web be subjected to a study.

The U. S. delegate to the committee, Anne O'Hare McCormick (The N. Y. Times) moved the resolution which provides for experts to inquire into the needs of the people, types of programs, availability of radio transmitters, receivers, relay facilities, interests of members in such activities, and the means of encouraging technological developments."

It was also suggested that the UN direct and coordinate the work of the various agencies through UNESCO time for educational, scientific and cultural cooperation. It was also suggested that the UN direct and coordinate the work of the various agencies through UNESCO time for educational, scientific and cultural cooperation. It was also suggested that the UN direct and coordinate the work of the various agencies through UNESCO time for educational, scientific and cultural cooperation.

UNESCO is also contemplating the clearing house for program ideas and for transcribed shows which will be submitted by radio organizations in various countries for packaging in other countries that may be interested in those shows.

KMPC Hikes Budget 100G as Power Jumps

A budget of \$100,000 has been earmarked by KMPC for promotion and program improvement during the coming year. Recently granted power boost from 10,000 to 50,000 watts station shortly will unleash promotional drive and will spear for "name personalities to lure its most loyal listeners."

About half the fund will be spent on ballyhoo, the rest on tieups, advertising and listener-winning measures. Station's house orch will be re-activated and the general programming bulwarked to include dramatics.

Show has a Washington originality, blending a humorous commentary-nitery-gossip D. C. brass-meeting format. Lines included:

George Dixon, the columnist, to wrap up the behind-the-scenes comment in a light vein; Austin Cassin doing a Hedda Hopper routine

Barney Breeskin's orch at the Shoreham hotel, with a D. C. variation on the Hildegard table-to-table spotting of celebs slanted for a strictly Washington flavor.

Dick Dudley emcees and Dave Kogan is the chief scripter.

THE RADIO HOUR

Listening's Cheapest

That the whole pattern of listening habit is subject to the whim of the national economy is reflected even in the increase in sets-in-use, a fact that more and more people are now taking for home. It is expected that the coming months may witness an unprecedented upsurge in increased home audiences.

The fact that evening sets-in-use are already 26 higher than a year ago is seen as the inevitable offshoot of the general dip of boxoffice receipts in film houses throughout the country, the night club patronage, however, etc. General Impression is that 1947 will find more and more people turning to their radio dial for entertainment as other show biz media do some belt-tightening.

The listening habit trend, too, has been reshuffled since the start of the new broadcast season in October. Throughout the past half-decade or so it was strictly a Tuesday night audience party, with *Blue Moon*, *Thumper* and *Molly*, etc., in the vanguard. This season, Sunday night is getting the biggest pull, with the NBC comedy parlay of Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Charlie McCarthy, etc., relegating the Tuesday night party to No. 3 position.

One-Shot Tradition in Radio Declined By CBS Maestro Who Points to BBC

By JOE COHEN

The American practice of discarding top scripts after one performance was called economic and cultural waste by Bernard Hermann, CBS symphonic conductor, who recently returned from a five-week concert tour of England. He declared it to be "wasteful to put so much artistic and technical ability into programs that merely is heard for one time in England, he declared, repeats top scripts at intervals and Hermann found this effort to be successful."

He declared it amazing that a medium and modern as radio has developed so many prejudices and traditions in so short a time. The one-shot custom and the practice of half-hour shows are the chief prejudices, he declared. Hermann said that if a program's merits were sufficient to warrant it, it should have more than a half hour, symphonies, he pointed out, sustain their audience for longer periods of time, and people enjoy recordings and albums in order to listen more than once.

"The BBC, Hermann noted, places great emphasis upon musical and dramatic programs, and that they are the air at the best listening hours, sometimes for an hour-and-a-half or two hours at a time. That country, he said, is selling culture, while we sell our products. BBC he declared, gives the people what it thinks good for them, and exposes Britons to top music of culture so that it takes in time."

Concert Biz Booms

This policy, Hermann felt, is apparently successful. The English concert business is booming, probably as a result of BBC policy, he declared that London has 12 concert orchestras, playing 22 weeks a year to capacity, while New York has an abbreviated concert season with only one orchestra, and that he said, John Barbirolli, one-time conductor of the N. Y. Philharmonic, now wonders why he is not in the orchestra here. He rebuilt the Philharmonic from scratch, since there was one of the best orchestras in the British desire for culture was seen in the fact that nearly 6,000 turned out to hear one of Hermann's concerts in Manchester on a rainy night while a bus strike, Hermann declared that it was inconceivable in an American town of the same size as Manchester.

BBC policy, he said, conformed to the general feeling in England, whereby the people realize that material things can be wiped out momentarily, and are consequently looking towards a spiritual fruition.

Matchabelli Scrams

Prince Matchabelli perfumes, which has been bankrolling the CBS network's 40-station CBS hookup on Sunday afternoons, is bowing out the net after the Christmas campaign with an illustration effective Dec. 29. Most International is the agency.

Matchabelli has been on and off the major jobs during the past few seasons.

LEA ROY CAUSES PANIC

Radio execs, in the wake of Monday's Chicago court decision holding the "anti-Petrillo" bill unconstitutional, were inclined to be on the panicky side in interpreting the implications of the Lea Act. Impression is that some quarters was that, with James C. Petrillo given the greenlight (unless the Supreme Court does a reversal) for an AFM drive to increase the number of musicians employed by stations, the already-mounting labor budget will be increased by several million dollars. They fear an era of "featherbedding" if, as they say, Petrillo is inclined to be in retaliatory mood. And some go so far as to predict the folding of a number of radio stations that lean heavily on "platter" programs unless they can effect a drastic hike in their ad rates.

In addition to an AFM drive for additional "live" musicians in stations, the way is now seen clear for a Petrillo drive for a decrease in a number of hours and boost in

"Boy, What a Pipe Dream"

wherein a couple of critics actually praise radio (and even like commercials) as discussed by

Mark Goodson

one of the many features of

VARIETY'S

41st Anniversary Number

To Be Published Soon

FCC Nixes Own

Blue Book Gripe

In KGFB Permit

Washington, Dec. 3. Indicating that FCC's bark may be worse than its bite, the commission announced last Friday (29) that it had reconsidered its decision to refuse a license renewal to pin-striped KGFB, Los Angeles, and was giving the see-sawer a regular three-year renewal permit. KGFB was one of seven stations (including Hearst's WBAL, Baltimore; WTOL, Toledo, etc.) cited for programming deficiency on Blue Book counts. It is the only one of the seven which has been given a clean bill of health without the requirement of going through a hearing.

FCC's change of heart was understood to have come about as result of league championship. The station, filed by KGFB early this fall, said it is only a 100-watt and pointed out that it was competing for time slots in getting live talent in the radio-rich Los Angeles market. The indie was leveled to have been put on the hook originally for its absence of live shows, its "racing news" broadcast and heavy commercialization.

FCC's action here was regarded by some observers as indication that none of the seven stations originally cited as Blue Book offenders had been able to verify a bona fide need for their licenses, once they instituted some reforms.

Gen. Mills, Wilson Coin To Air Pro Grid Title Game

Chicago, Dec. 3. General Mills, together with Wilson Sporting Goods Co., will sponsor the ABC full net airing of the National Professional Football League championship game, the fourth consecutive year.

Show scheduled for Dec. 15 or 22. Depends on outcome of game played by N. Y. Giants and Washington Redskins on Dec. 7. Point of origin will be determined after winning teams emerge.

Harry Wismer will announce.

Bergen Stance Jitters NBC, WT;

Time Opinion Could Smooth Nerves

"My Favorite Story"

Variety's annual symposium of the year's best laughs as recounted by

Lou Holtz

Louella Parsons

Georgie Price

Earl Wilson

in

VARIETY'S

41st Anniversary Number

Nets Holiday

Programs Will

Have UN Tie-In

"Peace on Earth," the traditional Christmas message, is going to be tied in practically by American radio with the current United Nations effort to effect realization of "good will to all men."

Reacting immediately to a suggestion made by Christopher Cross, UN's liaison officer for American radio, in networks and stations around the country have phoned in a similar effort to effect realization of "good will to all men."

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Cross last week sent telegrams and letters to networks, stations, ad agencies—and even to band leaders. He asked them all to bring UN messages into as much programming as possible on the two holidays.

CBS immediately notified him that it would recommend such tie-in to all its shows, commercial as well as sustaining. ABC started plans to arrange at least one big special UN show for Christmas day. NBC's commentator, Bill Chapman, read Cross' message on the air, and recommended compliance to all NBC stations, while the net's public service shows are planning to work out their own ideas on the subject. WOR, station's N. Y. flagship also notified Cross that special plans will be worked out.

In addition, Cross got immediate acceptance, and calls for material, from the radio industry. WGBS, Poughkeepsie; WGNW, Newburgh, N. Y.; KFWB, Los Angeles; WTTM, New York; WIP, Philadelphia; and WURL, WQXR and WINS, all New York.

Brook, department store in Philadelphia, which places a lot of regional radio advertising on its air's stations, notified Cross that it will tie in with UN messages. Springfield & Gully agency, San Francisco, (Continued on page 32)

KSTP'S 500G BLDG.

SPURGE ON AGENDA

Minneapolis, Dec. 3. KSTP, one of the two Twin City NBC outlets, has completed plans for a \$500,000 studio building in the Midway district to augment the present St. Paul studios in order to provide an additional 100,000 sq. ft. of space, according to Stanley Hubbard, KSTP general manager. Construction will start in about a month, materials are available, Hubbard says.

Even after the new studio is completed, the large Minneapolis studios at Radio City will continue in operation, according to Hubbard. KSTP now is broadcasting FM at 1,000 watts and is the only Twin City station so far to do so. It will begin its FM service broadcast in the middle of next summer, Hubbard says. There is no television broadcasting here yet.

There appears to be a three-way split of "nerves" going on, involving J. Walter Thompson, who left Bergen and NBC. It all has to do with the future plans of Bergen and his apparent interest about continuing week-in-and-week-out and his Sunday night show for Standard Brands. Bergen tipped off his desire to do something drastic about it when he recently came forth with the suggestion that comedians alternate their shows and lay off every other week. Lacking that, it's feared in some quarters that he may decide to call it quits after this season.

As a result there are a lot of fidgety people around the JWT agency. Bergen's been one of their prize packages for the past decade, and they don't want to jeopardize one of their most lucrative accounts. So it appears to be a question of how to make life happier for Bergen and keep Charlie McCarthy solidly entrenched in that Sabbath night at 8 o'clock slot.

Agency execs have been quietly hinting to NBC that the network, which also has a stake in one of the top Hooper-rated shows of the last five years, is in a position to dangle the choicest of plums before Bergen and that he ought to be happy over the option for the 8 o'clock period, just as the network did several years ago for Jack Benny when he looked for a while that NBC might lose the latter.

However, there's little likelihood of prexy Miles Trammell duplicating that step. It's known that Trammell hasn't been one of their prize packages for the past decade, and establishing the precedent with Benny and would rather forget it.

But, if the network is to make a big shindig for Bergen on the Coast to mark his 10th anniv on the air. From all reports, it's not likely that he'll probably wind up as a jointly-sponsored show for Jack Benny when he looks for a while that NBC might lose the latter.

But JWT apparently doesn't think the gesture will be enough to keep Bergen from pulling the hope that NBC uses the occasion to spinning a surprise on Bergen's behalf. The 8 o'clock option on a silver platter.

Denny Hays FCC; Porter to BM?

Washington, Dec. 3.

Charles R. Denny, Jr. will get the Presidential appointment to head the FCC tomorrow (Wednesday).

One of President Truman's secretaries, Denny, is expected to leave today after Mr. Truman's press-radio conference.

The appointment is not subject to confirmation by the Senate when Congress convenes. Denny is expected to be seen on the commission since March, 1945, and has been acting chairman since then. He will over to the OPA last February. He will be the youngest man ever to head the FCC.

Porter Decision Due

Washington, Dec. 3. All speculation that Paul A. Porter, former FCC chairman, would remain in the Government was cut short last week with announcement that Porter would resign as OPA head, effective Dec. 4, and would at the same time leave "the service" to head the Federal Communications Commission.

Present schedule calls for Porter to complete the large Minneapolis studios at Radio City will continue in operation, according to Hubbard. KSTP now is broadcasting FM at 1,000 watts and is the only Twin City station so far to do so. It will begin its FM service broadcast in the middle of next summer, Hubbard says. There is no television broadcasting here yet.

Federal Court Riddles Anti-Petrillo Bill

Chicago, Dec. 3. In a far reaching decision that ruled against legislative acts passed for the restriction against special in-

(Continued on page 36)

U. S. Tele Tops British Technically, But Loses on Sets, Programs

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Despite the fact that the United States ranks way out in front in the technical development of television, machinery, and the like, the U. S. lags far behind in programming and the amount of sets in use as compared to England.

Gander admitted that this country is far ahead of the entire world in the technical aspects of video, basing his conclusion on what he had seen in visits to the foremost television laboratories in the U. S.

Surprising element, according to Gander, is the paradoxical fact that while America is so far advanced in scientific standards of television, in London alone there are more than 100 stations, with the strong possibility of that figure reaching 500 within a year. BBC is able to support its large audience due to a larger variety of programs, and a greater amount of daily television fare.

Whether British television is as high an entertainment value as ours is doubtful, but its clench there's more of it. Gander, who is a high entertainment value as ours is doubtful, but its clench there's more of it. Gander, who is a high entertainment value as ours is doubtful, but its clench there's more of it.

Whether British television is as high an entertainment value as ours is doubtful, but its clench there's more of it. Gander, who is a high entertainment value as ours is doubtful, but its clench there's more of it.

In spite of the fact that there are more than 100 stations in the U. S., radio fare being more varied than a higher quality than BBC's. "Comedy music," the U. S. lags far behind in programming and the amount of sets in use as compared to England.

"A lot of radio is finished," Gander said. "But it will be a long time before the American radio, five to ten years, will be on a par with the British." Gander said that British newspapers are "simply frightful." He said that British newspapers are "simply frightful." He said that British newspapers are "simply frightful."

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Television Reviews

ARMY-NAVY GAME
With Bob Stanton, Ben Grauer, announcer.
Producer: Burke Croft.
5:30 Mins.; Sat. (30), 12:15 p. m.
GETTY
WNBT-NBC, N. Y.

NBC television clinaxed its college football coverage last Saturday (30) with the Army-Navy classic, which was probably their best gridiron scanning job to date. Using four Image Orthicon cameras, producer Burke Croft missed hardly a play of the thriller, giving viewers better than a bird's-eye view of the hectic action.

Croft could probably have taken more care in placing his four cameras around the field, since a year view of a spectator's head bobbed in and out of the frame at several points. Cameras were probably set up, however, when the stadium was empty and how was Croft to know this? The stands would keep jumping up and down in front of his lenses!

He managed to follow the ball in flight, and to show the various plays, something that has been lacking from NBC coverage of previous college football games. Comparison of the game's coverage with that of the other networks, up the fact that he has progressed considerably during the last 12 months. The use of the new RCA table-model set, the pictures were amazingly clear and sharp and could be compared favorably with the best network shots. Where the transmission over the Bell System's coaxial cable from Philadelphia could be compared favorably with the best network shots.

DuMont W3XWT Goes Commercial
Commercial television took a big step forward in Washington last Friday (30) when FCC handed a 60-day permit to WTTG, DuMont's test station here. Station will operate commercially after December 15, using experimental equipment of DuMont's test station W3XWT.

Leslie Arliss, managing director of WTTG, said station hopes to be in operation with its full-powered 5kw sound-picture transmitters early in 1947. First sponsored show to go on the air here will be professional hockey match from the Uline Arena, Dec. 10, sponsored by U. S. Rubber Co. Repetitive shows on the station include "The Big Game," a 60-day permit to WTTG, DuMont's test station here. Station will operate commercially after December 15, using experimental equipment of DuMont's test station W3XWT.

The DuMont's D. C. outlet will also televise the Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the White House, Dec. 24. It was understood. Repetitive shows on the station include "The Big Game," a 60-day permit to WTTG, DuMont's test station here. Station will operate commercially after December 15, using experimental equipment of DuMont's test station W3XWT.

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FCC PRELECTS TV ENGINEERS

Washington, Dec. 3.—FCC spokesmen predicted today (30) that the upcoming hearing on pros and cons of commercializing Columbia's mechanical color video would probably last the entire week of Dec. 10 and possibly longer. A good prospect of the tele industry has already signed up for the hearing and CBS, on whom the burden of proof lies, has said it may require as much as 17 hours for its direct testimony alone.

With characteristic thoroughness, the net will put seven of its top men on the stand, with color-television inventory by Peter Goldmark expected to consume as much as 10 hours in direct presentation. Other Columbia officials who will testify include: Dr. Frank Stanton, president, vicepresidents Adrian Murphy and Larry Lowman, Donald Horton, director of Television Audience Research Institute; William B. Lodge, CBS chief engineer, and Paul H. Reedy, engineer.

On the other side of the field, RCA, DuMont, and the National Broadcasters Assn. are already on record in opposition to the CBS proposal. Allen DuMont, president, and T. T. Goldsmith, Jr., director of research, will headline the DuMont

Black-and-White Wind

Washington, Dec. 3.—

CBS color men take note. With FCC's long-awaited hearing to decide whether or not to license black-and-white television mechanical color video set for next Monday, Dec. 9, it was inevitable that some weeks ago, at least two FCC engineers have already put their own hands on the FCC's black-and-white tele receivers.

Outside-FCC sources reported that Curtis Plummer, chief of the FCC's Television Division, and side Hart Coppenhaver, had both put in orders for the monochrome sets some weeks ago. It doesn't necessarily mean, of course, that FCC members have made up their minds on the color question. But it shows which way the wind is blowing. At the same time, all six FCC members are without a color fill of the black-and-white lines through RCA or DuMont receivers installed in their homes.

presentation in favor of waiting for another FCC hearing. The FCC will speak for TBA, and attempt to coordinate TBA views with those of the Radio-Television Planning Board, RCA, which expects to be on the stand between two and five days. The FCC will also have a Jolliffe to testify but is keeping mum on identity of its other spokesmen. The hearing will be held in one of the most important witnesses will be David Smith, director of research for Philco. He will head the television committee of the RTPB.

CBS may expect at least qualified support from several of the manufacturers who have filed appearances. Westinghouse, General Electric, Federal Television and Radio Corp. have all worked on CBS type transmitters and receiving equipment. They will report on its efficiency and probable costs. Similar info will be presented by Federal Communications Laboratories on its experiments in rainbow tele.

Another technical issue arriving at color video will be interposed by Thomascolor, Inc., whose representatives are expected to appear. It will describe the Thomascolor process of photography and its possible use in television.

DuMont, it is anticipated, will also demonstrate for FCC its new light-amplified color video set. It will show black-and-white or color video to demonstrate its versatility and possible use in other types of color broadcasting.

Light-Beam Photovision Shown By DuMont Would Kill Coaxials, Feed Telenets, Theatres Cheaply

By DOROTHY HOLLOWAY

Washington, Dec. 3.

Eddie Giosa, boxer who scored a 10-round decision over Louis Constantino in the feature bout at Madison Sq. Garden, N. Y., last Friday (28) night, also scored one for television.

Giosa, to whom pugilists is mainly a side dish, works as a wireman in the television transmitter section of RCA-Victor in Camden, N. J. His wife, family and relatives naturally watched him with the fight over an RCA tele receiver, as televised by WNBT (NBC, N. Y.).

Hooper's Bid For Telerating Sample

C. E. Hooper made his bid to the television industry for audience measurement this week with the claim that retelling, by video, would be a simple maneuver involving no expensive methods presently used for obtaining radio ratings.

Consequently, Hooper declared, technical statistics already in effect for radio can be transferred to television at no additional charge. In his bi-weekly Hooperating Lights, Hooper pointed out that tele should actually get its audience share. In that way, it will be possible to get a figure on the size of a tele audience that's directly comparable to radio Hooperatings. Because only a certain number of known people presently own tele sets, the private surveys conducted by Hooper thus far utilized the files on these owners, instead of making calls at random.

To get video audience measurements, all that's necessary is the inclusion of a question asking whether the interviewee was "either looking at or listening to a program just now." In that way, it will be possible to get a figure on the size of a tele audience that's directly comparable to radio Hooperatings. Because only a certain number of known people presently own tele sets, the private surveys conducted by Hooper thus far utilized the files on these owners, instead of making calls at random.

Hooper cautioned that the present tele surveys were not comparable to anything else, since all present owners are enthusiastic fans who have already been "surveyed to death." Thus, said tele ratings now should not be compared with radio ratings by reducing the two to a common denominator. The comparison of television against radio listening today will, however, show the choice of the radio listener over between the two media.

Mexico's Azcarra Spreads Sil in Tele

Mexico City, Nov. 26.

Enilio Azcarra, head of the syndicate of his name that operates Mexico's largest stations, XEW and XEQ, announced today that he has signed disk plants and two big local filmhouses, has become Mexico's pioneer television chain operator.

Azcarra has asked the Ministry of Communications and Public Works for franchises covering a 50,000-watt television station here, and for a 100,000-watt station in the key provincial cities of Guadalajara, Tampico, Monterrey, Toluca, and Mexico City.

Cinequart-Crosley Radio Corp. is the FCC's receiver of television permits in one day. One is for WLWT, Chicago, which will operate on channel 4, and the other for WLWC, Columbus, to outlet on channel 3. Beaming will emanate from the tallest buildings in each city.

It's not a joke, son. Some day you may be able to rig up a television network tied together by nothing more substantial than "light beams." And ultimately you may be able to do it with mirrors. This, at any rate, is the promise of "photovision"—a sensational new development by which tele programs may be sent from city to city over "light beams" rather than radio waves or costly coaxial cable. Method was claimed useful also for large screen theatre video.

Photovision was its first public demonstration here at the Washington Potomac Electric Power & Light Co. building, where it drew 400 members and friends of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Invention is the work of Dr. T. T. Goldsmith, Jr., director of research for DuMont.

The use of "light beams," Goldsmith said, brings television network transmission to other cities "ultimately simply and cheaply" video broadcasts in the home.

The new "light beam" technique to relay pictures of an outdoor football game from field to transmitter and thence to other cities is many times cheaper than the costly A. T. & T. coaxial cable now used. It was pointed out, however, that the images with much greater sharpness and clarity since, Goldsmith said, "a television image is not a photograph of its definition or sharpness when it is transmitted by coaxial cable." He pointed out that the major New York and Washington costs millions to install; a series of relay stations between two cities for the transmission of pictures and sound over the light beams would not exceed \$30,000.

Color, Too

Photovision can be used to relay color video as well as black-and-white pictures. It operates in light or darkness, without any interference from static or other radio waves. Goldsmith said, "I've already, for instance, transmitted a picture of a dog in a room heavily charged with dust particles. He described this as a 'test of the power' obstacle which will be overcome. Other engineers upheld his assertion that 'light beams' had been widely used by the English, Germans and Americans for relaying long communications during the war."

In the demonstration, pictures were transmitted and broken and retransmitted. The sound of the beams over a 12-foot distance. Goldsmith explained that public tests would be held in the near future. The beams would be relayed with equal clarity over distances up to five miles. The beams would be relayed with equal clarity over distances up to five miles. The beams would be relayed with equal clarity over distances up to five miles.

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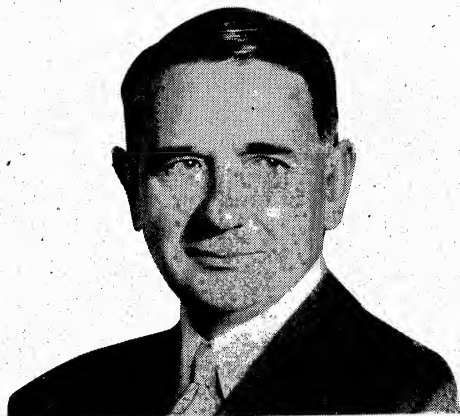
Question of FCC's jurisdiction over "light" as well as radio beams came up for some discussion at the demonstration. Goldsmith pointed out that the Communications Act merely forbids the use of radio waves for radio communications, "not light."

Don Lee, Ansco In v. Newsreel Pact

Hollywood, Dec. 3.—Television newsreel deal, the first of its kind here, was announced today between Don Lee's experimental station, WEXAO and Ansco. Arguments called for a 10-day process reshot by a special Lee crew and time allowed runs during the next 10 hours, and then on circumstances and material.

Special crew is being set up by Don Lee, which will be in charge of the film. The film will be telecast on the station's regularly scheduled Monday night program.

Sound effects will be added later where necessary via the special crew consisting of announcer, lensman and sound engineer.



"If we ever hope to allay the
fears which lead to wars,
we must have a free
flow both of ideas
and information
throughout the
world."

Kent Cooper, A.P.

AS TRUE OF RADIO AS IT IS OF THE PRESS



WJR

THE GOODWILL STATION INC FISHER BLDG DETROIT
MICHIGAN'S GREATEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM
CBS BASIC AFFILIATE
REPRESENTED BY PETRY

G. A. RICHARDS, PRESIDENT OWEN F. URIDGE, VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

Inside Stuff—Radio

Spokesman for American Jewish Congress last week answered N. Y. Times columnist Arthur Krook on latter's charges of press freedom. In fact, Krook had claimed that the FCC, by taking into account (as basis for decision whether the N. Y. Daily News should be awarded an FCC license) charges by AJC that the News showed racial bias in its news and editorials, was abridging the freedom of the press guarantee of the First Amendment. Answer was made by Alexander H. Pekelis, prof at New York State Graduate Faculty, in a letter to the Times last Wednesday (27).

"The News," said Pekelis, "not only applied for a radio license as a newspaper, and set forth its newspaper policy in the proceeding—but it was, therefore, the News, which invited the commission to look into what it had done in print in order to find out if it was a newspaper. True enough, when its invitation was accepted, the News resented it. But obviously it cannot have it both ways. It cannot invite its newspaper policy to support its case and at the same time prevent its opponents from examining that policy."

"Moreover, it should not be overlooked that what is being discussed at the FCC hearing is not the News' uncharted right to continue to continue to be the kind of newspaper it has chosen to become—but only its right to hold a public trust and franchise. The manner in which a constitutional right is exercised may have a legitimate bearing upon the fitness of a candidate for a position of trust and confidence."

"The case of the News goes to the very heart of the commission's regulatory power. The United States adopted a unique system, unparalleled in other countries, for the control of broadcasting. Congress has rejected both the idea of public censorship and that of a public monopoly. It has confined public control to the selection of private licensees and has left with those licensees sole responsibility for the proper use of the facilities it has put at their disposal."

"This is a daring experiment, based on the belief that properly selected private licensees prompted by the profit motive will be capable of performing a delicate public duty."

Krook, answering Pekelis, still insisted he was right. Even if the News had definitively originated this issue and no one had thought of raising or meeting it, he said, "I continue to believe that for the FCC to entertain it is a conditioning of press freedom and therefore an abridgement."

Although Judge T. Alan Goldsborough barred broadcasting from the trial of John L. Lewis in Washington last week, the network and independent stations alike in the D. C. hurled the obstacle. Throwing their entire newsmen into the breach they effected an up-to-the-minute coverage of the proceeding.

NBC covered the trial by direct telephone lines to WBC transmitter and to New York after Goldsborough made the ruling. CBS ducked the "no direct lines out of the court" rule by setting up WTOP's mobile transmitter outside the court building with lines maintained through a third-party window. Gunbar Beck and Winston Burdett broadcast the proceedings at 10 and 1045 a.m. The mobile transmitter shortwaved their show.

Station Porter Trapped Stealing Money Letters

Louisville, Dec. 3.

Porter at WHAS, Christopher Columbus Sykes, was arrested last week and charged with stealing more than 500 letters containing money sent to the station by listeners. W. Lee Coulson, station manager, and suspicions were aroused when letters began disappearing regularly some time in September. A trap was laid for the porter about 10 days ago.

Sykes made full confession after arrest and led the police to more than 500 letters in a garage at his home, most of which were unopened. He is presently in a Lexington jail. LaGrange, Ky., and said he had taken about \$200 from letters he had opened.

"HIRES TO YA"
FOR SECOND YEAR
HIRS SUNDAY PARTY
ABC, COAST-TO-COAST

WARNING!

On your memo pad...where it says, "Do your Christmas shopping early", better add another note: "WTRY and 800,000 radio families join Columbia on January 1, 1947."

Put an exclamation mark beside it and "ACTION NOW" in big, bold letters because this is a new, powerful selling combination. It blankets three prosperous cities of Albany, Troy and Schenectady, plus eight high income counties where people earned nearly a billion dollars last year.

If you delay you may be disappointed. WTRY's best time spots, its most popular local programs will bring the most profitable returns to advertisers who schedule this new WTRY-CBS combination early. The good availabilities won't be open for long.

This is certain. Won't or call us or the nearest Headley-Reed office today. You won't be sorry (unless you put it off).

*MME says
13 counties.

WTRY

Albany—Schmiedel
N.Y. Highway—SME
Schenectady—SME
Schenectady—SME
Schenectady—SME
Schenectady—SME

to the WTOP transmitter, from which they were fed to the full network. ABC also got a line into the District Court building before Judge Goldsborough ruled them out of order. As a result, John Edward and Jack Bell covered the trial for ABC with few headaches.

Macron Reed, WOL-Mutual newsmen, took the air-re-ordering to court with them and asked Judge Allen to get a wage was a glare. Reed nimbly told his radio audience they would hear "two seconds of genuine recorded silence" from the mine chit.

For the second successive year, the National Council of YMCA's is running a contest for the best radio script that "will help most, in the opinion of the judges, to stimulate the desire to study English every-day lives in a way that will help promote international peace." Prize is \$500 and guarantee of production. Conducted by Henriette K. Director for ABC net, Fred Papp, public service program producer, director for NBC; and Harper Sibler, chairman of international committee of YMCA. Contest closes Jan. 31 and winner will be announced early in March.

Networks who've been kicking because they don't get any news out of Russia through the correspondents for the chance this week to air Moscow's No. 3 man on foreign relations, Andrei Vishinsky, deputy foreign minister, who ranks only below Stalin and Molotov in his sphere. But they turned the opportunity down.

Vishinsky spoke Monday night (2) before a Madison Sq. Garden (N. Y.) rally arranged by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. He issued an invitation to the American people to "join the fight." It's too late, we have commercial commitments, we don't like a foreign speaker, etc. Vishinsky, whose English is not good, was translated by a Russian interpreter for Molotov, but the nets would have none of the show anyway.

At least two of the networks that were embroiled with American Federation of Radio Artists on "secondary boycott-small station" clause matter will meet with a similar fate in January or February. At that time, the National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians are expected to start and NABET will very probably again press its case with the FCC. Public service program producer, director, which NABET has jurisdiction, in which technicians are on strike. If the nets continued to feed a station where NABET men were actually on strike, the station would in effect be NABET men at program sources strike breakers against their own outfit.

In a move to widen coverage during its 1947 drive, the March of Dimes is preparing a series of foreign language e's to be used by idlers catering to the various national groupings. First of the poster series was turned out last week at WGVY featuring top Italian radio talent. Roundup of Enrico Caruso, Jr., as emcee, with Margaret Rogers, mezzo soprano; the Ciaramella, Neapolitan comics; and Nicola Perna, Italian musical folklore singer. The March of Dimes has the pick for the March of Dimes in Italy. Study facilities, orchestra directed by Paul Romeo and producer Renzo Sacredote were supplied by WGVY.

ABC net show, World Security Workshop, won a Washington-approved "plea for tolerance" program—"Memo to the People"—Thursday (3), at 10 p.m. e.s.t. The play was written and produced by the public service director for WINX and WXYZ-FM, Washington independents. It was first broadcast before WINX as a V-J Day anniversary program last August. Clifford Brannan was narrator for the ABC broadcast.

Baseball-Tele

Continued from page 1

Walter Thompson ad agency for the Yankees and Dodgers made several visits to MacPhail's office with a check for \$50,000 in hand. MacPhail, however, after first hogging out for more money from NBC than he accepted from DuMont, finally decided he wanted to sell to a station that had no other team signed on with DuMont. NBC is assertedly satisfied with his Giant pact, though, figuring N. Y. is basically a Giant's town and that the club should eventually park up to emulate its league-leaving tendencies over several years ago.

NBC carried Bell. All three tests nets covered baseball on an experimental basis last week, with the big league pretest willing to let them in for nothing else. NBC carried the broadcast on a regular schedule, scanning two or three games a week of at least one of the three teams all during the week. Web got a taste of things to come during the final playoff series between the Dodgers and St. Louis Cardinals when it was forced to pay \$5,000 for rights to the game played in N. Y.

Specific plans for selling baseball to television stations are expected to be made at the baseball owners' meet Dec. 31. Since the television scene varies with each city in accordance to the number of sets on the market, it's believed the owners will allow sale of video rights to be the prerogative of each local manager. WBSB (Babalan & Katz, Chicago), for instance, experimented with picking up several home games of the Chicago Cubs last year but with the few number of home-owned sets in Chi., the station couldn't afford to pay high prices to the Wrigley club.

Team owners are expected to pay strict attention to the effect of television on their gate receipts. Most of them, however, believe that the radio will tend to boost attendance at ball parks in much the same way radio

aid by creating fans out of people who had not previously paid much interest to the game. MacPhail, for instance, predicts that he'll gain two new customers for each old one he decides to watch the game from the comfort of his own easy chair.

AFRA

Continued from page 27

ity of the station's talent signed up for membership, call and win an NAB election, call for negotiations with the station, and be in position to prove that the station stalled and did not negotiate in good faith. All that takes months.

Fun Begins in Fall of '47 AFRA expects to be ready to put the "unfair" tab on stations by the fall of 1947. And then the fun begins.

AFRA agrees in the contract never to strike one network if there are unfair stations on another network. It will be no different with the fall of 1947. And then the fun begins. AFRA does not have to declare war on one station or network at one time. It can mop up with one station, before it tackles another. It can't carry the burden of the contract, its members on other shows and other nets will still be getting the agreed-upon fee.

All else, after having won this victory, is negotiable, which is what both AFRA and the stations want. When they issued a statement last Friday (26) about how beautifully the negotiations were going, AFRA Having bowed on this one point, the nets had not far to go. There was never any doubt that a negotiation could be reached between the nets and AFRA on all other important issues like sales, basic fee, etc.

The networks are not expected to win in their desire to have a scale show for five-minute and 10-minute shows, although AFRA is opposed on this too. AFRA has already conducted the argument about regional contracts, as long as the negotiations are held simultaneously. Talks resumed in New York yesterday (Tuesday) after AFRA reps had arrived from Chi and the coast.

Albany—Ed Walker, publicity and promotion director for the station, resigned to become promotion manager for the Albany Times-Union.

Meyerhoff Buys Into 1 Kw Milwaukee Outlet

Chicago, Dec. 3.
New Milwaukee 1 kw outlet on 1430 kc, which filed application with FCC last week, is being backed financially by Arthur Meyerhoff, Chicago ad agency head.

Meyerhoff holds only six of the listed 100 shares, with G. Grabin, also of the Meyerhoff agency, coming in for 10 shares of the new station, tabbed as the And-ave Radio Co.

Stating that he had no interest in the station as a test market, Meyerhoff further claims he will have no active function in the new setup.

Other stockholders of And-ave are: Fred Froede, Milwaukee bank prez, 24 shares; Sidney Charney, 20 shares; Gerald Bartel, 10 shares; Ben Barkin, five shares; and Lee K. Besnor, five shares.

WTRY-FM BOWS

Troy, Dec. 3.

WTRY-FM went on the air at 3 p.m. Sunday with a dedicated program from studios on the third floor of the Proctor Theatre Building. Greeting from the mayors of Troy, Albany and Schenectady, and from the General Electric-owned WGVY, WGFH and WRGB, Schenectady, were broadcast.

Cincinnati—WKRC has a tie-in with RKO theaters for gifts of miniature records to and by individuals during the pre-Valentine season. Nothing being done by the station's engineers at afternoon and night intervals in lobbies of three downtown houses.



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KMB
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AFRA

Continued from page 27

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THE VOICES OF MARLIN BLADES
JINGLES
that don't
JANGLE
RADIO'S MOST COMPLETE,
EFFECTIVE JINGLE SERVICE
YOUR Jingle Sings or
Written, Packaged, Produced
ANNIE & GINGER, GARY
640 N. 10th St., St. Paul, Minn.
*ARMY NATA, ETC., ETC.

ABC NOW FIRST

*in Network Food Advertising**

 **There's plenty of meat for advertisers—especially food advertisers—in this ABC success story:**

Today the American Broadcasting Company leads all other networks in volume of food advertising. Since 1942 all network food advertising has increased 55%. But during this same period ABC has registered an increase of 343%—over six times the figure for the industry!

An increase as big as this one doesn't just happen. It is *caused* to happen. And in this case the causes were three:

1. COVERAGE: ABC provides intensive coverage of America's major food markets *from within*—and presents your message at econom-

ical rates which result in a low cost per thousand listeners.

2. PROGRAMMING: ABC morning programming, which has risen to top listener ratings over the past three years, is built to order for America's product-buying housewives.

3. PROMOTION: ABC stations—now more than 230 of them—do a terrific job *locally*, put plenty of enthusiastic promotion behind their network programs.

The moral: follow the lead of top advertisers like Swift, General Mills, Kellogg, Quaker Oats, Derby Foods, and Libby-McNeill & Libby, just to mention a few, and ship your goods to market via ABC.

* First 9 months 1946
P. I. B.

ABC American Broadcasting Company

A NETWORK OF 236 RADIO STATIONS SERVING AMERICA

Miller Urges School Broadcasts If Coal Strike Shuttles Classes

Washington, Dec. 3. NAB prexy Justin Miller has urged broadcasts in areas where schools are shut by the result of the coal strike to help fill the gap by presenting interim instruction via radio.

In letter to station managers throughout the country, Miller urged them to set aside regular one-hour and half-hour periods each day in which educational authorities could comment generally on any children whose classes might be halted by the coal emergency.

Though details have not been

worked out, station WOSU, at Ohio State University, has agreed to make time available, possibly for an hour's program divided into 15-minute segments to cover such basic studies as arithmetic, English, and history.

The complete program will be arranged if the coal shortage becomes sufficiently acute to force widespread school closings, officials said.

Denver Turns to Radio

Denver, Dec. 3. With schools shut because of coal shortage, board of education is using press and radio to get the daily lessons across to the school kids here. Newspapers are still "preparing" to run school class assignments, however, while the local radio stations carried 25 educational shows last week and have skedged 78 for this week.

Among the subjects targeted to pupils are current events, arithmetic, history and English.

Kids who don't have radios at home or want to get the feel of a classroom on the air are urged to get together with other students for mass listening. Air shows also give the pupils their assignments, send them on field trips, etc.

Washington — Don Bell, former correspondent for the last 15 years and most recently night news editor for Mutual in New York City, has been named News and Special Events Director of WGAY, the new DC-Maryland station due to go on the air in Silver Spring around Dec. 7.

Pre-Trial Exam This Wk. In Goddard Suit vs. NBC

NBC goes to court this week for first crack at pre-trial exams in the suit against them by announcer Don Goddard for \$78,000 damages. Goddard was fired last Feb. 19 after a broadcast in which he allegedly made derogatory remarks about Rep. John Rankin.

Goddard claims that he was under contract to the network at a guarantee of four episodes at \$180 a week each until 1947, and that the damages arise out of the money owed him on that contract.

James, Kogan Break Out With Rash of Packages

New production firm of Hal James and Edward Kogan has several half-hour shows making agency rounds that have excited interest because of their unusual twists. One is an institutional program, "Men At Work," a dramatization of the current St. Evepost series about average U. S. breadwinners by Richard Threlson. Scripts are Max Wilk (son of Warner Bros. exec Jake Wilk) and Ted Marklund.

Another is a quiz show, "Let's Go," based on the idea of everyman's desire for travel, with amusing quizzing contestants on where they want to go and why and winners to certain questions getting their desired trip.

A. E. Gelo is the writer. Another is a crime show, "Was This Justice," with a panel setup of jurist, psychiatrist, officer and layman. Writer is Altona Dean Cole, scripter on "Crime Photographer."

James, who produced the Dick Tracy show, is producer with Ellington Co. Kogan is former radio actor.

Japs Seen Needing Much Watching, Training Before Nip Radio's Free

Importance of a long term supervision of radio in Japan and the need of longtime training of a people who still think of democracy in terms of a fast leap and a cigaret, was stressed last week by a young ex-officer just returned from Nippon. Freedom of speech and assembly, the right to voice protests in print or on the air, are still something inexplicable to the average Jap. And although the Japs are using their radio to help condition themselves to rejoining the family of nations (closely supervised by the Allies), the educational period will be a long one.

Radio will be the important medium in this education, according to Larry Schwartz, ex-army lieutenant, who served as Jap language officer in the Allied Press Control Bureau for a year. Formerly connected with "American Town Meeting" in N. Y., Schwartz worked at Gen. MacArthur's headquarters in Tokyo five months, then was in charge of censorship on Shikoku Island five months.

Japan had one network, NHK, before the war. It was government-controlled, with no advertising. NHK Corp. still handles the net under strictest supervision from MacArthur's CIE division. Central broadcasting station is Radio Tokyo (JOAK). Japan has over 100 stations, many in and shape from bombings. Most take programs from

JOAK, with about three hours daily for own-originating shows. JOAK is on the air from 5:15 a. m. to 10:15 p. m.

What They Hear

Programs include news (about an hour a day in five or 15-minute segments), a women's hour, father's hour, citizen's hour, children's hour, symphonic and folk music hours. There are full 60-minute sessions. Dramas and comedies are featured on the femme and kid shows. Baseball games are broadcast Saturday afternoons, in season. A "Jap Town Meeting" is on once a week, transcribed Thursdays (for censorship purposes) and broadcast Saturdays. There aren't many soaps, Japs preferring their folk music.

Most programs have such folk music, although the Allies have checked carefully to omit the militaristic music, feels of old warlords, Samurai, etc. Japs hear western music, but prefer the longhaired jazz, very little of the latter being broadcast. Japan being an agricultural country essentially rural districts don't care for western folk music, preferring their own folk music.

Japs have favorite film actresses but no special radio faves. In addition to folk music, they like the Jap version of soaps, which love interest usually subordinated to adventure, mystery, etc.

In the whole, 20% of the people had access to radios, according to Schwartz. There's a monthly tax on sets, recently raised from five to 12 yen (about 80c).

Tele Review

Continued from page 31

out during last year's game, everything went smoothly this year. Cheers and yells from the crowd in the viewing room were probably as vociferous as any at the stadium.

Play-by-play was handled in fine fashion by Bob Stanton (who, incidentally, was under contract in this space last week of missing up a pro game on Dec. 3 when even there). Stanton's usual easy-going wit paced the game nicely. Ben Grauer, doing the color commentary, followed through in top style.

Something should be done about the Gillette commercials. Instead of the interesting films that Goodyear has fed tele viewers this year on other Army games, Gillette seems to use its nondescript slides, which lack any semblance of motion. Pugs were thrown in indignantly during the first half of the game, often during complete "by the viewers" interest in the contest. Sponsor knew enough, however, to withhold the commercials during that spectacular last quarter, permitting the cameras to stay glued to the playing field.

Stal.

HALLORAN HOLIDAY
What is Ray Kane, Max Kirk, Maxine Sullivan, Minnie Walters, Jackie Ray, Alex Tournelle, F. Robert Moss, Sid Sattler, 2244 AGF Band Producer-Director: Bob Bendick 10 Miss. Thurs. (21) 9 p.m. Sustaining

WOR CBS, N. Y.
CBS television took its first Image Orthon camera out to Halloran General Hospital (Stap Island, N. Y.) last Thursday (28) night to bring viewers a Thanksgiving benefit show staged there for the hospitalized Army vets. Most interesting feature of the program was the fact that live musicians were seen tele for the first time since the American Federation of Musicians ban was clamped down on the medium. CBS (N. Y.) permitted CBS to use an Army orch for the show, since it was a benefit.

Despite statements of tele execs that they can get along without live music, the orchestra considerably aided in hyping interest in the show, making the talent look and sound much better than when it has only recorded music for backing. Way the camera picked up the keyboard as Pvt. Robert Moss played "Rhapsody in Blue" presaged the time when tele cameras will go into a concert hall to bring viewers both the sight and music of famous concert artists.

Since the proceedings were staged like any benefit, all that remained for producer-director Bob Bendick to do was train his lenses on the stage. Bendick went beyond this, however, to swing his cameras around to the vets in the audience from time to time to pick up their reactions. Way he handled the lenses often made it seem as though there were three cameras at work instead of two. Particularly outstanding job was done in the piano sequence, when the camera completed a 290-degree turn to focus finally on the keyboard.

Talent, consisting of some of the best in show biz, was first Maxine Sullivan scored with her "Loch Lomond" and Alex Tournelle, a French gal, with her Russian ballad. Minnie Walters, of "Follow the Girl," and disc jockey Jackie Ray handled their taping chores competently. Lisa Kirk, sultry songstress who made her sizzle bow recently at the Ruban Bleu, N. Y., was outstanding with a brace of ballads and displayed a nice personality in ending the group-singing of "Old MacDonald" for the sign-off. Jimmy Kane seemed adequately. Stal.

why would you buy time on WOR?

or: even if the witness is prejudiced...



Woman commentator Martha Deane: "More than 167,000 people listen to my show every weekday afternoon. To me that looks like reason enough for advertising on WOR."



Disc jockey George Monaghan: "I'd say because WOR is frequently the station tuned to longest in the most homes during the daytime."



Veteran actor John Gambling: "WOR pokes its way pretty powerfully into 16 cities with 100,000 people each in 7 states. That's getting around some."



News Analyst Fulton Lewis, Jr.: "It's the Scot in me, I guess—but when I hear that WOR recently reached 198,000 homes for 51 cents per thousand, it looked good to me."



Sportscaster Stan Lomax: "WOR recently helped me send 11,985 listeners into a manufacturer's dealer's stores. That's certainly one reason for picking the station!"



Radio hostess Bessie Beatty: "My sponsors include such people as Procter & Gamble, General Foods, Pilot Radio, and many other smart money. Let them tell why they use WOR!"

WOR—that power-full station at 1440 Broadway

Mutual

Jocks, Jukes and Disks

By George Frazier

By now it is scarcely breaking a novelty to report that Spike Jones & City Slickers are really kind of swell. Everything considered, they are just about the most hilarious group around today and their zaniness is one of the most pleasant (and possibly enduring) contributions on records. However, it becomes progressively more apparent that he and his gang are more than merely funny. In their best moments—the inspired imitation of "Chico" or "Cocitales" for "Two" or "Three"—they achieve a uniqueness and altogether incisive kind of satire. It's a talent that transcends comedy. Jones' hilarity is edged with a sharp sally at Tin Pan Alley and those who play its wares. That this is not always immediately evident is because it is done with such consummate urbanity.

Jones' latest Victor is a coupling

of "The Jones Laughing Record" and "My Pretty Girl." "The Laughing Record" opens with a traditional rendition of "The Flight of the Bumble Bee." The soloist doesn't get very far, though. Suddenly someone begins to howl with laughter, and then someone else, until the whole band is in stitches. We're not quite certain what it all means, but the implication would seem to be that "Bee" has degenerated into pretty much of a joke, which, incidentally, is probably the case. Aside from this, the face is virtually ten inches of uncontrollable contrapuntal laughter (that will probably have you routing too). All in all, it's a highly effective job and one, it seems only reasonable to assume, that will get a big play, on the jukes and home spins. Reverse is a good deal more audible. As a matter of fact, it is performed in such dead-pan fashion that a lot

of listeners are going to miss the point. What the Jones band does is to take "My Pretty Girl" and provide it with all the painful embellishments of the swing-and-away dance band idiom. More incisively than anything we have ever heard, it impales the excesses—the revolting devices, the parodies of musicianship, that pass as the trade-

Best Bets

Hot—"Humoresque" (Mary Lee Williams).
Novelty—"Jones Laughing Record" (Spike Jones).
"I Used to Work in Chicago" (Johnny Kaye).
Ballad—"This Time" (Claude Thornhill).
Hillbilly—"One Little Tear-drop Too Late" (Bob Aicher).

marks of certain bands. Jones' boys are really kind of great and if you happen to be one of the individuals who have yet to sample their act, say "My Pretty Girl" is as good a place as any to remedy the situation.

It requires something less than genius to predict a slagering sale for Sammy Kaye's "I Used to Work

Suggested Program

(Each of the following disks contains at least one memorable hot solo.)

"No One Else But You"—Louis Armstrong (Okeh). (Armstrong on trumpet).
"Dinah"—Red Nichols (Brunswick). (Jack Teagarden, trombone).
"Moon Glow"—Benny Goodman (Columbia). (B. G. of course).
"Foxy Park"—Duke Ellington (Decca). Johnny Hodges, alto saxophone.
"One O'Clock Jump"—Harry James (Columbia). Herschel Evans, tenor saxophone.
"Save It, Pretty Mama"—Louis Armstrong (Okeh). Earl Hines, piano.
"Sugar"—The Chicagoans (Okeh). Jimmy MacPartland, cornet. Bud Freeman, tenor sax. Frank Teschemacher, clarinet.

in Chicago" (Victor). This is a lauded version of one of the dirtiest songs ever sung at a stag affair. It is to Kaye's credit that he manages to retain its point without making it offensive. There's nothing to be said about it musically, for it makes no pretensions in that direction. Its simple aim is to amuse, and it accomplishes it with a lot to spare. You'll be hearing it on the coin machines. Its coupling, "It's

For Dancing

"Begin the Beguine"—Arlie Shaw (Victor).
"You're the Cream in My Coffee"—Sonny Kendis (Columbia).
"Negra Leone"—Xavier Cugat (Columbia).
"Blue Danube"—Henri Rene (Victor).
"Tangerine"—Jimmy Dorsey (Decca).
"Once in a While"—Tommy Dorsey (Victor).
"Alone Together"—Carmen Cavallaro (Decca).

a Lie," is another comedy number. It, too, is pleasant enough, but hardly a class with "I Used to Work in Chicago."

"The Mission of the Rose" and (Continued on page 47)

10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

1. Old Lamplighter (3) (Shapiro-B)..... Sammy Kaye..... Victor
2. Rumors Are Flying (10) (Oxford)..... Frankie Carle..... Columbia
3. Ole Buttermilk (8) (Burke-VH)..... Kay Kyser..... Columbia
4. Five Minutes More (20) (Melrose)..... Connee Boswell..... Decca
5. Things Did Last Summer (5) (Morris)..... Frank Sinatra..... Columbia
6. For Sentimental Reasons (3) (Leeds)..... Ella Fitzgerald..... Decca
7. Coffee Song (6) (Valiant)..... Charlie Savak..... Victor
8. To Each His Own (19) (Paramount)..... Frank Sinatra..... Columbia
9. South America Take Away (16) (Wit's)..... Eddy Howard..... Majestic
10. I Guess I'll Get Papers (10) (C-P)..... Ink Spots..... Decca

Coming Up

- Whole World Singing Song (Robbins)..... Les Brown..... Columbia
- Zip-A-Dee-Do-Dah (Santley-Joy)..... Jimmy Dorsey..... Victor
- You Keep Coming Back (Berlin)..... Sammy Kaye..... Victor
- Passé (Feist)..... Johnny Mercer..... Capitol
- This Is Always (BVC)..... Bing Crosby..... Decca
- If I'm Lucky (BVC)..... Jo Stafford..... Capitol
- On the Boardwalk (BVC)..... Tex Beneke..... Victor
- Stargazers..... Margaret Whiting..... Capitol
- Rickety Rickshaw Man (Peer)..... Harry James..... Columbia
- Best Man (Vanguard)..... Dick Haymes..... Decca
- Huggin' and Chalkin' (Hudson)..... Perry Como..... Victor
- Gal in Calico (Witmark)..... Jimmy Dorsey..... Decca
- Sooner or Later (Santley-Joy)..... Tex Beneke..... Victor
- Bing Crosby..... Decca
- Sammy Kaye..... Victor

JUNE RICHMOND

Currently

ZANZIBAR, NEW YORK

Opening Dec. 13

PLANTATION, ST. LOUIS

EXCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT

ASSOCIATED BOOKING CORP.

JOE GLASER, Pres.

745 Fifth Ave., New York 22

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DJANGO REINHARDT

WORLD-FAMOUS GUITARIST

Featured by Duke Ellington at Carnegie Hall in his first appearance in the U. S., is also a composer of great merit. His numbers, "NUAGES," "MELODIE AU CREPUSCULE," "SWING 42," etc., are among the biggest hits in France. All his works are published by PUBLICATIONS FRANCIS-DAY, 30 rue de Valenciennes, Paris, who have world rights on all his repertory.

You Can't Hold a GOOD SONG Down!

Thanks To All Our Friends

"THE BEST MAN"

By Roy Alfred & Fred Wise
Is Breaking For a HIT With

Top Radio Commercials, Records & Artists

VANGUARD SONGS

Chicago
Loew's Theatre Bldg.
Harris Corner
411 E. 1st St.

Chicago
Loew's Theatre Bldg.
Harris Corner
411 E. 1st St.

Hollywood
4th Sunset Blvd.
Helm Munster
Room 101

BMI Pin Up SHEET

Hit Tunes for December (On Records)

BEST MAN, THE

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

COFFEE SONG, THE

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

EVERYBODY LOVES MY BABY,

My Baby (Grove)
Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

I LOVE YOU!

FOR SENTIMENTAL REASONS

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

HOLD ME, HOLD ME, HOLD ME

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

I GUESS I'LL GET THE PAPERS

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

I'LL NEVER LOVE AGAIN

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

IT'S ALL OVER NOW

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

RICKETY RICKSHAW MAN, THE

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

TOO MANY IRONS IN THE FIRE

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

YEM VEN

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

ISN'T THIS BETTER THAN

WALKIN' IN THE RAIN

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

WHAT MORE CAN I ASK FOR?

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

WHICH WAY DID MY HEART GO?

Les Brown-Cap. 10-1014 • King Cole-Cap. 10-1014 • Ray Charles-Cap. 10-1014
Bing Crosby-Melrose 10-1014 • Duke Ellington-Cap. 10-1014

BMI

BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.
100 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.
New York • Chicago • Hollywood

Libel Suit, Redoubled 'Commy' Cries Mark Eve of N. Y. 802's as Baiting

Cries of "red" and "Communist," etc., tossed freely the past few weeks by the three major factions fighting for 25 offices on the city council (Nov. 19 Thursday), New York Local 802 election has resulted in filing of a \$5,000 libel suit against the United Federation of Musicians. The suit, instituted by David Greer and Jim Collis of the Independent Committee of Choice, charges that the union with allegedly distributing a phony leaflet said to contain "lies and slanders" in its entireties. The suit also includes Joe La Morte, Al Maruti, Jerry Seely, Bill Van, Austin Matthews and Paul Holby. The suit was to have grown out of an "expose" of Al Maruti printed in the Nov. 19 issue of "Independent," organ of the Independent Committee. Author of the "expose" was Jerry Seely, who was charged to "The Independent," denies he ever saw the leaflet which bears his misquoted name and was reportedly circulated by Unity members. He further denounced it in a separate statement.

Pointed out in last week's Variety, the pre-election campaign is being clouded by the "expose" which emanates from the rival camps. Supporters of the Blue ticket have launched the Independent "expose" ticket as "Communist-tinted" while followers of the Independent also have tossed off a few twists of bait.

Meanwhile, those who have made a close study of 802's past expect the Blue ticket to win. The Blue ticket for the past 12 years, to retain most of its offices. The Blue ticket again there are too many candidacies, runs running against the incumbent party which will split the Blue vote. Blue vote sufficiently to allow the late to get back in, however, there are in many cases a target to the Blue's Richard McCann for president. Since, when a member of the Blue (the better known), the highest percentage of votes of any Blue member in past elections. Incidentally, the Blue abundance of candidates that has

(Continued on page 40)

Morris, Sinatra in New Co. Pact

After several weeks of off-again-on-again talks by attorneys of both sides, an agreement between Edwin H. (Buddy) Morris' music publishing company will open a music publishing company. Frank Sinatra has finally arrived at, and papers have been signed. Certain details of the pact as originally planned have been changed, but otherwise the accord is said to be substantially the same. Twice during the past week, the deal was off and then on again. Finally, Sinatra and Morris' attorneys, got the deal straightened out. The deal, which the singer is currently and will, for another three weeks or so, and straightened out. Meanwhile, Morris' attorneys who lead the Sinatra firm in N. Y., has had a deal at Morris' New York offices for the past month.

Sinatra's negotiations with the Burton Music Co., from which he withdrew recently, has been the portion of the firm's stock, remains status quo. When he first got into N. Y., a few weeks ago, he was told that Sinatra's 33 1/3 interest in the Burton firm would be held by him, but he would not be actively interested in the firm any longer. Now, it appears, a deal will be made to buy him out.

Nat Winecoff Resigns As Coast Head of MPCE

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Nat Winecoff resigned as director of Motion Picture Publishers' Employees Assn., giving increased duties as general manager of Southern Motion Picture Co. and other companies as reason. He denies any other reason for the move. Green, publisher of the Los Angeles Green Music Corp., has been named to take chief of outfit for Coast.

Peter Kreuder, composer and orchestra leader, will tour the U. S. early next spring.

Woodmansee Out As Capitol Ad Manager

Hollywood, Dec. 3. Shipack at Capitol Records Coast office moves H. Woodmansee from his ad manager post and brings in the Dunn-Fenwick agency to handle all creative and copy-writing work for platters' ads, with George Oliver remaining as overseer of ad sales promotion.

David Dexter remains as publicity chief. Two copywriters and two salesmen were let out with Woodmansee.

Bank Quits Cosmo, Sets New Label

Harry Bank, who launched Cosmopolitan Records some time ago, is definitely out of that setup and is going ahead with plans to establish a new record label, to which the "Cardinal" title will be applied. His new label is not yet set up. He asserts that a fair proportion of Cosmo artists and staff will join him in the new venture and that the label will be pressed by other independent firms with enough capacity to handle the output.

In the meantime, Cosmo gets deeper in trouble. Hal McIntyre, who seceded from Cosmo months ago, is now back in the picture, later to return on a per-date basis, has complained to the American Society of Musicians to collect some \$11,000 more owed him. Harry Fox, agent and trustee for music publishers, is recording royalty matters and is auditing the company's books to determine what he's got coming.

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Mex. Musicians' Czar Slaps Back at AFM's Pettrillo, Nixes Cugat

Chicago, Dec. 3. Mexico also has a Pettrillo who doesn't like it. U. S. counterpart Xavier Cugat got an invitation to play at inauguration ceremonies of Mexico's pre-elect, Aleman. Few days later personal letter from Aleman came saying that he had discussed the deal with the head of Mexican Musicians' Union.

Musical czar nixed date and explained that when Pettrillo allowed Mexican bands to play in U. S. he would do likewise. President Aleman is in hopes of getting Pettrillo and local boy to sit down for a chat with American music press.

TRACEY SUCCEEDING JIMMY WALKER AT M.A.J.

Eugene A. Tracey, exec. of the parent Majestic Radio & Television Corp. will take over the Majestic Records presidency with the passing of Jimmy Walker. Ben Selvin, of the latter's winning recording and personnel head.

Block of Majestic stock will take care of the late ex-N. Y. mayor's two adopted children. This was one of the major factors which figured in Walker accepting the Maj. post. The deal, which will ensure the company will have security. This element also applies in any firm big deal which naturally came up in the deal. Walker was alive. In the twilight of his life his prime concern was caring for the motherless children.

Probation of Walker's will at Surrogate Court, N. Y., indicated that the estate probably would be left to his two adopted children, his first wife and his sister, Sidney Harris, of the latter's & Harris law firm, was named executor.

Way Damene cutting 10 more discs for Associated Program Service, following the success of his previous loving album with Milton Berle, Betty Garrett and Marie Green for Victor.

ASCAP Prepares to Act on Fees From Diskboxes in Non-Admish Spots

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, which was censured along with the U. S. Government in the recent convention in Washington of the International Confederation of Authors and Publishers, is preparing to act on fees from diskboxes in non-admish spots.

ASCAP's approach to the problem is very simple. It is undoubtedly will involve the 1909 copyright law, which for years, from the viewpoint of publishers and songwriters, has cried for revision. This law blocks the possibility of collecting performance fees from diskbox owners in that it states, in effect, that fees are not collectible from music machines which are not used in a public place. It was written at the time to cover saloons, etc., using mechanical music. It also covers the modern record machine and thus ASCAP's hands in realizing a revenue for its work.

ASCAP feels that its case is a good one; that a considerable number of people are not getting the realize profit from the operation of diskboxes for profit and that its members are entitled to a share of the revenue for this sort of performance of their works.

U. S. law is to be the only country in the world which does not exact performance fees from music machines. It is the only country in Washington in several weeks recommended action.

Retal Disk Sales On the Look-out

Retail record sales, which have been of approximately 30% recently, save promise of picking up over the last year. But what is the reason? When manufacturers had begun to worry that the expected Xmas trade would not materialize to the extent they had expected. They still are not certain that mountains of disks, records and other items are going to move at their usual rate, but they're currently more hopeful about the future.

Most recording companies have been shipping disks the past few weeks at an increased pace, but these have not been moving over the counter. As a result, most retailers are overstocked.

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"The nickel-operated phonograph is a favorite of high-school youngsters," says Greenstein. "It is a favorite at a price they can afford," Greenstein said in his public announcement. "We feel that a clean fun is a good influence on the youngsters. We are definitely not going to increase the price of pleasure and entertainment."

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Musicastr Records last week tore up Mel Torme's old contract, covering his singer and his vocal group, the Mel-Torme Trio, and is giving Torme a solo buildup. Platters cut Torme's first four solo discs, including "I'm a Fool to Think I Can Ever Love You Again," written by the Mel-Tomes, brought on by the buy-up, has fallen through. The new deal, which has been lined up with the Tex-Bene-Glen-Milch orchestra and remaining three lining up for another spot.

Herman Herd Crosses Fingers on Shifted Date

Cleveland, Dec. 3. Last-minute shift in booking dates for his jazz concert here has virtually thrown away Herman's orchestra into the soup, as far as advance ticket sales are concerned.

Herman had been due to give a Christmas benefit-fund show. Since the charity affair was being put on in the Civic Auditorium, the main hall, Herman's bookers decided the competition would be too terrific.

They shifted Herman's concert to Thanksgiving night, a tough day, the previous date left the main hall's schedule. Move necessitated to many other costly changes in posters, billboards and advertising that it has given headache trouble to everybody, from confused theaters to befuddled ticket-buyers. If this much-licked-around jazz concert breaks even, it's a miracle, say those who will consider themselves lucky.

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Sonata

*a beautiful ballad
by Ellington-composer of "Symphony"*

SONATA

WORDS BY

ERVIN DRAKE - JIMMY SHARL

Slowly and expressively

SO - NA - TA, my SO - NA - TA, I hear your heart-beat
theme and I begin to dream. You lin - ger,
my SO - NA - TA, In er - ry rev - er - le
You bring my love to me. Please play on,
Make my dream - love stay. When you're gone (who he)
fades a - way. SO - NA TA, When I find (per him)
each ten - der note you played will be my ter - o -
nade. SO - nade, My SO - NA - TA.

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RECORDED TO DATE

by

PERRY COMO

CARMEN CAVALLARO

TONY MARTIN

JO STAFFORD

THREE SUNS

CLAUDE THORNHILL

NORMAN CLOUTIER

BUDDY MORROW

VIC DAMONE

LARRY GREEN

JERRY SEARS

EDDIE STONE

RUSS MORGAN

HAL DERWIN

RUDDY COLE 4

JOHN LORENZ

An All-Time Christmas-Timer

THAT CHRISTMAS FEELING

by BENNY BENJAMIN and GEORGE WEISS

Oxford Music Corporation

9 BROADWAY NEW YORK N.Y.

GEORGE JOY President

NEW YORK: EDDIE JOY

NEW YORK: EDDIE JOY

ARTIE TALANDO

Chicago: TED LEVARS

Diskers Stress Need for Maintaining Acoustical Standards for All Dates

Capitol Records' recent arrangement with RKO-Pathe to lease new studios set up by the latter as a means of securing a permanent New York recording base indicates the value diskmen and bandleaders place on studios and their ultimate effect on the recorded works of bands and singers. Capitol grabbed the RKO studios as a means of avoiding constant touring from New York. It hired studio to another, with its accompanying change in acoustical equipment, engineers, etc.

In many cases, recording companies are loath to disturb the physical setup of a studio found to be ideal for certain bands and singers. Often whatever drapes, etc. are used to deaden or live a studio are left untouched for indeterminate periods to avoid disturbing acoustics that engineers have come to know accurately. Capitol, for example, at one time used MacGregor studio in Hollywood which it found to be excellent for its purposes until it was replaced without its knowledge and its value destroyed.

To achieve and keep proper setups for bands working certain

studios, bandleaders and recording companies go to great lengths. RCA-Victor, for example, makes decisions on the acoustical characteristics of instruments each time one of its bands records in a different studio, so when a new setup is being tried, (Capitol keeps files identically by taking photographs of setups from each studio), so that if a session turns out exceptionally well returned it is reproduced the next time a band does a date in the same studio.

Topper of all, however, is the Musartist at Guy Lombardo for years. He invariably uses the same Decca studio in N.Y. and the positions of his instruments are the identical distances from the mikes each time. They are measured off from floors, legs at Lombardo, and the result is his band's record performance rarely varies that, in effect, is what other record companies, bandleaders, etc. try to achieve.

On the Upbeat

New York

Duke Ellington's first disk for Musartist is soon. Band cut first couple of sessions in N.Y. in recent weeks after expiration of R.N.V. contract. Starters signed to Swan Records in N.Y. . . . Lionel Hampton singing midnight jam sessions at Aqueduct Restaurant, N.Y. . . . Thomas Pulliam named assistant sales manager at Musartist. . . . Four Brothers signed to National Records. . . . Red Allen shifted from Downbeat. . . . Spotlight Club, N.Y. . . . Dave Jacob, Tommy Dorsey's road manager, off T. D. payroll and back to Coast soon with indefinite plans. . . . Boyd Raeburn in N.Y. with barker Stillman Pond on quickie check; returns west this week. . . . Sammy Kaye opening at New Yorker hotel, N.Y. Friday (27) one of the biggest spot ever had.

Pittsburgh

Alvin Roy band opens two-week run at Vogue Terrace Friday (6), replacing Ray Kinney. . . . Marty Greger's band into Club Ankara tonight (Wed.) following Larry Park. . . . Ozzie Clark, long-line arranger and assistant director for Lawrence Welk, has brought his own orch to Bill Greger's for a fortnight, succeeding Will Hawker. . . . Herman Midelman shutting between Hotel Bristol and Silver Grill and Carousel, where he has both dance units. . . . Darryl Campbell, former trumpet (Continued on page 32)

Bands at Hotel B.O.'s

Band	Hotel	Weeks Played	Covers Shared	Total Covers
Boil Lombardo	Waldorf	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	8	2,900
Boil Lombardo	Bowling Green	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	5	2,750
Boil Lombardo	New Yorker	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	0	975
Boil Lombardo	Pennsylvania	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	1	2,300
Boil Lombardo	Lexington	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	2	2,100
Boil Lombardo	Lexington	400; \$1.50-\$2.50	4	1,125

* Indicates Floor Show; at Waldorf, Frank Sinatra, 12 days.

Chicago

Harry Coal (Paufler Room, Sherman Hotel; 850; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). Cool doing fine for short run, 4000. . . . Freddie Nage (Empire Room, Palmer Hotel; 700; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Present show closes Saturday (7) and room reopens day after Christmas, with new show, 1947. . . . Ted Weems (Boulevard Room, Stevens Hotel; 650; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Hefy 4,800.

Los Angeles

Freddie Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-\$1.50; Indef.). Thanksgiving and special parties helped boost it to nine 3,200. . . . Russ Morgan (Biltmore; 900; \$1-\$1.50; Indef.). Biz okay here, too; 3,500.

Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

(Chicago)

Russ Carlyle (Blackhawk; 500; \$2-\$2.50 min.). Football crowds boosted take to four 7,000. . . . Gay Chadler (Coty Parlor; 650; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Dimout or no dimout they find this spot to come see Sophie Tucker. Willie Shore and Bobby Green and pack the joint, Top 6,500. . . . Eddie Howard (Aragon; 800-\$1.15 min.). Matinee fine 19,000. . . . Buddy Shaw (Latin Quarter; 700; \$3-\$3.50). Dropped to 3,400 last week. Lawrence Welk (Triumph; 800-\$1.15 min.). Steady 17,000.

(Los Angeles)

Best Arson (Ciro's, N. Hollywood, 2nd wk.). Holidays weren't as good as expected—true in most cities; 2,400 wasn't too bad, however. . . . Bob Crosby (Avodan, B. Los Angeles, 3rd wk.). Held to 9,800. . . . Jan Garber (Aragon, B. Ocean Park, 12th wk.). Good 6,500 for the week. . . . Vito Maso (Meadowbrook, B. Culver City, 4th wk.). Built to 5,000. . . . Van Tomkins' Starliners (Triumph, B. South Gate, 4th wk.). Bonkin, on over the weekend, and Spade Cooley, holding Wednesday spot, got 2,800. . . . Orrin Tucker (Casino Gardens, B. Ocean Park, 3rd wk.). Tucker responsible for 7,000 this week. . . . Tommy Tucker (Palladium, B. Hollywood, 2nd wk.). That spread in Life mag and Thanksgiving turnout resulted in smash 20,000 for Tucker.

Shep Fields, Jerry Levy Set Own Booking Agency

Shep Fields and Jerry Levy, who handles the business end of Fields band, are following up their acquisition of Glen Island Casino, New Rochelle, N.Y., by establishing a booking agency. Later will handle Fields, who is no longer connected with the Radio Corp. of America, and also will go into party bookings a la Meyer Davis. In booking bands for the New Yorker, however, no commission deal will be sought. They will simply be bought.

COAL STRIKE STARTS TO WORRY DISK FIRMS

Coal strike is beginning to worry recording company executives, though the majority of them seem to have enough fuel on hand to last them a month or more (Columbia has five weeks' supply). Without coal, no records can be produced since it is used for the pressing machines.

Lack of coal is hurting some ballrooms, too, even some of those in the mining regions of Pennsylvania, one of the best one-night territories. Promoters are wary of closing contracts for bands for dates a few weeks hence (these are few since one-nighters are booked farther in advance than that), but those who have closed agreements for pre-Xmas and New Year shindigs are beginning to fret. They see themselves forced to cancel due to their inability to supply heat.

Waring, O'Connor Settle For Reported \$25,000

Fred Waring and Johnny O'Connor have settled out of court their differences over what might have been due O'Connor from his one-time choreas as Waring's manager. Arrangements finally were agreed upon last week and papers are due to be signed this week, eliminating the possibility of a court action by O'Connor.

Waring and O'Connor never did have a contesting bidding them together as manager and artist. They worked this way for years and when the pair split over a year ago no mention of a franchise settlement was made. Several months ago, O'Connor went after his due and the settlement is the result. How much coin was involved is undisclosed by either party; it's said, however, that the sum is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$25,000.

WEEMS AMONG GROUP TO GET ASCAP GREETING

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers admitted a batch of writers and publishers membership last week. Prominent among the writers is maestro Ted Weems. Other groups include Jack Waverly, Bob Troop, Sam Shickel, Albert Sundrey, Edna B. Piffard, Lorenzo Paul, Albert M. Newman, Richard Miles, Edward Lane, Danny Hunt, Robert Gilbert, Walter Freed, Irving Fields, Irving Drutman, Irving Conn, Elton Britt and Euday L. Phillips and Arthur Forrest Kelling. Pubs set with ASCAP, in pop field: George Adams Music, Airline Music, Greenwich Music, Dick Kahn Music, National Music, Record Sons Co., Bob Stephens Inc. (owned by former Doce exec), Tone Music and Jack Waverly. Standard: Columbia-Ross Co.

TOP HITS OF YESTERDAY GREAT POPULAR STANDARDS TODAY

From the Charles E. Segal Production "THE FABULOUS DORSEYS" AT SUNDOWN Words and music by Walter Donaldson

Tony Martin's Newest Record Hit "GUILTY" Words and music by Gus Kahn, Harry Akst and Richard A. Whiting Mercury Record 3042

For new vinyl copies and arrangements of the new release PHIL KORNESE, Manager, Standard Explorations Dept., The Btg's, 1419 Broadway, New York 19, Circle 6-7939

Song Suggestions for your CHRISTMAS Programs HOME LIGHT A CANDLE IN THE CHAPEL WITH CHRISTMAS MORNING IN YOUR HEART MY CHRISTMAS WISH MILLS MUSIC, INC. 1419 Broadway, New York 17, N.Y.

Top Tunes for Your Books An All-Time Favorite EXACTLY LIKE YOU Music by . . . JIMMY McHUGH Shapiro-Bernstein

TELEVISIONS

On leave from the Broadway Paramount Theatre for a stay at the Polyclinic Hospital, New York, Sends Warm Regards to All His Friends in Show Business

And Calls Their Attention to the Following New Song Compositions Available for Publication and Performance

In Collaboration With ANDY RAZAF

"All Is Well," "Fortune Teller Man," "Welcome Love," "Loco Over You," "Ev'ry Second, Ev'ry Minute, Ev'ry Hour, Ev'ry Day," "Ke-Choo" (The Swooning Song), "Thank You for the Bitter Truth," "Go Home, Little Girls, Go Home."

In Collaboration With MORRIS ALLEN

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NOTE: This is an early, incomplete list. Dozens of other recordings are being planned and prepared.

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Lou Walters Back From Europe, Compares French and U. S. Standards

Toutstar France has little to offer American showmen in the way of production ideas. They're at least 15 years behind the U. S. on matters of presentation, even though they have many superior ideas in the creation of costumes, scenery, and presentation of music. The French haven't learned how to build to a paramount finish and in many cases the producer's sense of pacing is off.

So declared Lou Walters, operator of the Latin Quarters in New York and Miami Beach after a trip to France and England where he glimpsed the entertainment scene. He returned on the S. S. America Saturday (30) after booking several performers for his shows.

There are, however, some superior performers in that country today, but the terrific pre-war pantomimes are virtually gone and Walters was forced to select a top run of recognized standard performers for his shows.

Among the standouts are Edith Piaf, a sentimental singer at the Theatre Eldie, who's accompanied by a singing chorus, and who is slated to come into this country next year under Clifford C. Fischer's auspices. George Ulmer is another topflight performer as is comedian Bouboul. Suvy Prim is another highly re-

spected star, but her metier is dramatic rather than musical, he declared.

In dancing, French troupes are very behind in the run-of-the-mill ballroom team in the U. S. would be a sensation there today, and change the tempo to below standard levels. There are, however, some good adults acts to be found. Chorus lines are devoid of beauty, but the fault, says Walters, in many cases is that of the operator. The chorine's pay runs around the American equivalent of \$12 weekly. The nude showgirls get less. French managers take the viewpoint that the girls aren't working for salaries, but for the "connections" they can make.

At this point, Daisy Dix, the French singer imported by Walters, said something about "Le Syndicate." Walters explains that managers pay a uniform sum and any chorine refusing to work for those prices finds herself barred elsewhere. That's quite in contrast to American standards. U. S. bonafide like personal pride in the lines they present, and provide the highest chorus girl pay scale in the world.

Walters noted that theatres are doing excellently despite the fact that they're forced to suspend operations during the day because of the acute fuel shortage and the smart clubs are doing all the business there is to be done in that line. The cheap Montmartre niteries are doing badly since there is no tourist business as yet.

During his trip, Walters signed Daisy Dix, Firooki, Choppo, Fro Craddocks, Evelyne Riva and George Albin. Show will open at the Florida spot and will come to New York in the spring.

Miss Dix, upon her arrival on the Queen Elizabeth, was delayed at Ellis Island because of her unusual passport. She was born in Belgium and had a passport from that country, but she's married to a Frenchman and has renounced her Belgian citizenship preparatory to becoming a French citizen. Immigration inspectors detained her two days.

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For 11 Weeks
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Management
GENERAL ARTISTS CORP.

Mack Davis' Ice Show

Two Music Corp. of America albums are temporarily encoined in the hotel where their prime talent affiliations are currently performing. Jack Phillips, who personally handled Hildegarde through the years, has a Plaza Hotel office, and Mack Davis, who long booked the Hotel St. Regis ice revue, has an office in that N. Y. hostelry. Incidentally, Davis henceforth will personally produce the St. Regis ice shows, a new one opening Jan. 24 with the same personnel as currently, starring Carol Lynne, and with dances done by John Brett.

'Ice Follies' Boff Gross on N.Y. Run

Shlipstad and Johnson's "Ice Follies" drew a record gross for one performance of its annual showings at the Waldorf-Astoria Garden (Saturday night) (30) (total) \$30,000, skating revue featuring Sunday Stateside that the show set its previous engagement at the Garden by \$50,000 which is 18% over last year's business and 55% more than that of two years ago. The advance sales at New Haven, Hartford, Pa. and Philadelphia are considerably ahead of last year. When the "Follies" opened in New Haven Monday (2) the arena was sold out 85% in advance for the week's stay. So far the only stand that was under previous seasons was Los Angeles.

Business for the "Follies" is exceptional because neither Eddie and Roy Shlipstad nor Oscar Johnson are in the revue so far this season, although all three were in New York last week. Roy has been out of the show because of a hip bone separation but may rejoin and is occasionally practicing.

The "Follies" was formed in 1936 but it was the first time that Shlipstad and Johnson did not appear in the garden for 20 years. Before they organized the revue the team appeared between periods of ice hockey games.

'Ice Capades' Planes

Troupe to Dates When Transport Snarl Looms

Transport curtailment because of the coal strike last week forced the management of "Ice Capades" to fly the performers from Springfield, Mass., to Buffalo, N. Y., in order to insure cast arriving on time for the opening. Freighters are transported in two chartered planes, each performer taking one costume in their hand luggage.

A railroad pullman and one baggage car was used for other personnel and rest of the troupe. Fortunately, rail cars arrived on time for the opening.

"Ice Capades" spokesman said the extra expense entailed ran between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

Friars to Salute Lewis at Annual Frolic, Dec. 15

Portmouthing Friars' Frolic, set for Sunday evening, Dec. 15, at the Imperial theatre, N. Y., will salute Ted Lewis on his 35th anniversary in show business. Lewis, currently heading his own show at the Latin Quarter, N. Y., will close there the previous night.

Friars' tribute to Lewis will be in the nature of a follow-up to that given several weeks ago at the Latin Quarter, with proceeds from latter going to assist charities. The comedian has been interested in for years. Milton Beale will be chairman and emcee the show.

Gracie Fields' Roxy Date First Vaudeur in 10 Years

Gracie Fields has been signed for the Roxy theatre, N. Y., for a date some time in January following current run of "Roxbury Edge." It's her first vaude date in this country in more than 10 years.

Miss Fields has been in semi-retirement until recently, appearing only on the air as a musical. However, she's started appearing in niteries having played Las Vegas spot and slated for the Chez Paree, Chicago.

Roxy has also set Gil Lamb and George Knight for the show following Miss Fields.

Film Stars Love That Road With Tax Cuts and 50% of Gross on Pkg. Deals

Hollywood, Dec. 3.

That film stars are getting more come taxes for next year is evidenced by sock name attractions lined up for three consecutive weeks in February by William Morris agency at Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco. Record booking for the week of Betty Hutton, Dick Haymes, Feb. 12; and Danny Kaye, Feb. 13.

Three out of all of whom will be between picture commitments at that time, are paying for surrounding the package deal. Terms for all three are percentage deals, calling for 50% of the take. It's first time in Golden Gate's history that they've had three top film names in a row.

Eddie Cantor's series of 10 personal appearances during the holiday season has caused his next film, "You Know Susan," to be pushed back to 8 starting date. Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson are clearing special blackouts nostalgia tune for the Alhambra, which will have seven production numbers.

Joan Davis will costar and Gordon Douglas will direct.

Kathryn Grayson is expected to wind up her personal appearance tour at the Capitol theatre, N. Y., in February. Deal was concluded last week. She'll be on the show with Johnnie Johnston.

She's already set for the Albee, Cincinnati, Jan. 9; State, Hartford,

Jan. 17; and the RKO, Boston, Jan. 23.

Las Vegas' Big Names
Niterie adjacent to the new Flamingo hotel, Las Vegas, N. M., opens with Jimmy Durante and Xavier the Army Stars, and Abbott & Costello are set as headliners in a series of two-week engagements, Henry King is the likely band after Curly.

Hotel itself won't be ready until March 1 but the cafe will open for the New Year's killing.

Boy Foy's Yank Dates

Boy Foy, English biggie act who prewar worked extensively in the U. S., arrived in New York last week from England and started at the Latin Quarter, Boston, Sunday (1). He's also slated for Foy's State, N. Y. City, and follows with the Capitol, Washington.

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Industrial Fair Set for A. C. Pier

Atlantic City, Dec. 3.

Hanni's Million Dollar pier, which formerly was known as Young's Million Dollar pier and for more than half a century has been a main attraction during the summer months as an amusement spot, next season will be the scene of an Industrial Fair.

This became known here Friday following a meeting of the fair's sponsors with city officials and civic leaders. Another session early this week will determine the name of the project.

Attending the meeting in Mayor Altman's office was Dr. H. W. Winters, of Toronto, on vacation or on leave, and William G. Rolley, of New York City, president of Industrial Exhibits, Inc.

City and civic leaders had objected to naming the project a World's Fair, the name first selected by the sponsors.

It is the plan of the sponsors to bring here for the season aviation, automotive, brewing, building, electrical, apparel, food, petroleum, pharmaceutical, rubber and tobacco exhibits.

The pier, one of the oldest in the resort, has been fading as an amusement spot in recent years. It featured dancing in a huge Boardwalk ballroom and vaudeville and films in one theatre and mystic shows and other entertainment in a second theatre.

George Hamid has been operating the pier for the past several years along with the Steel pier, further up town.

Del Castile, former magician, has joined the Jack Kalchauer agency on a partnership basis.

Herb Shriner slated for a date at the Golden Gate, San Francisco, Dec. 31.

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HERB SHRINER slated for a date at the Golden Gate, San Francisco, Dec. 31.

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Four A's Return Autonomy to AGVA With Shelvey Retained as Nat'l Director

American Guild of Variety Artists was given return of full autonomy by Associated Actors and Artists of America, parent union, at a special meeting held last Friday (29). Move means that the vaude talent union regains its independence and will now be permitted to set up its own officers and governing bodies which will be nominated and elected by the membership at forthcoming convention in Chicago, the latter part of January. During the interim Matt Shelvey, national head of AGVA, remains in complete charge of the Four A's continuing as overseers until union's own slate is elected.

A majority of the AGVA membership, via Shelvey, petitioned the parent union for return of autonomy two weeks ago, producing facts and figures that it was able, financially and otherwise, to conduct its own affairs. AGVA had lost its autonomy in 1942 when its future looked dubious and it had accrued an indebtedness of \$71,000 to sister unions (Equity, Chorus Equity, Screen Actors Guild) which was repaid some months ago.

In addition to return of autonomy the Four A's also ratified constitution and by-laws drawn up by AGVA under its independent setup and gave Shelvey the green light to set machinery in motion for the convention, which will be the first national convocation of the talent union.

AGVA was organized in 1939 after the collapse of American Federation of Actors, which had been the

previous vaude union. At that time it functioned with its own officers and governing board and seemed to be getting nowhere fast. When it incurred the \$71,000 indebtedness, the Four A's took over its autonomy in 1942, subsequently installed Shelvey as national director, giving him a free hand and cooperation in building it to its present status of some 32,000 members and a healthy treasury.

Gag Writers To Have Own Union

Gag and special material writers are finding that conditions prevalent in the field are no laughing matter. They're consequently forming the Special Material Writers Guild, which will hold its organizational meeting Friday (6).

Organizers are seeking to establish minimum scales for writers, as well as minimums for medleys, original songs and monologues. Initial meet will determine whether they'll ally themselves with the American Guild of Variety Artists or form own AFW affiliate. Group also hopes to insure acts that material purchased will be exclusive and talent will not be stuck with unsuitable material.

Organization committee is composed of Marty Roth, Al Sproul, Hughie Prince, Dick Rogers, Sherry Cloth, Coleman Jacoby, Allan Walker and Frank Warren.

Joe E. Lewis' Fla. Date

Joe E. Lewis has been signed for the Colonial Inn, Hallelujah, Fla. starting Jan. 16. Comic will headline the second show in the spot. Preem show, Dec. 24, will have Jane Froman, Borrah Minevitch, Harmonica Rascals and Miriam Lavelle.

Sally Rand Cited

Unfair by Union For Failure to Post Bond

Sally Rand, fan dancer currently heading her own unit at the Tower Theatre, Kansas City, has been declared unfair by American Guild of Variety Artists for failure to post cash security covering salaries of act and line girls employed in her unit.

Union stepped in last week but withheld action at behest of the Tower management, which claimed to have expended a considerable sum in advance of completion of unit. Union, however, has notified members of the troupe they are continuing with unit after current date unless Miss Rand straightens out matters in the meanwhile.

Miss Rand had posted security when originally organizing the unit some weeks ago. When she was arrested at the Million Dollar Theatre, Los Angeles, couple of weeks ago, troupe was paid off by AGVA from bond money up. She subsequently was acquitted on the charge and reassembled her unit sans posting new security with the union.

Coronet, Philly, Folds

With Some Contract Snarls

Coronet club, Philadelphia, closed Wednesday (27) shortly after the death of Joe Kravitz, who with Chas Gerson operated the spot. Cafe, like most clubs in the area, had been operating in the red for some time.

Arthur Fisher, who booked the Coronet, declared that arrangements had been made with all talent commitments, but Sol Tepper, who set Joey Adams, Tony Canzonetti and Mabel Plant into the Coronet for a date around Christmas time, said no adjudication had been reached on that contract.

Mickey Alpert, who emceed the show at the time of the Coronet's closing, moved over to the nearby Latin Casino, with spot's fold. Fisher declared closing to be temporary, and spot will be reopened after some refurbishing.

New Producing Combo

Frank F. Tracy and Bill Reinke have opened a talent office in Kansas City, which will go in for producing units.

Tracy at one time, was prez of the company which founded the Tower theatre, K. C., and later acquired by Fox-Midwest. Reinke was division manager for the Universal theatre circuit at Omaha and K. C.

Nitery Slump, Soaring Operating Costs, Cues Salary Cuts After the New Year

Nitery operators are taking the stance that if they're to remain open after New Year's, expenses will have to be cut drastically. They point out that the business level is comparable to that of 1939-40 and in some cases below that, but expenses are 200% more than that period. Consequently, margin of profit is gone and in some cases operators are in the red.

Among the increases, biggest hike is in the talent budget. In that era, a top show budget ran around \$600. Today, the same show would cost \$14-\$15,000. Liquor which was less than \$50 a case is now around \$80, and in addition, cafe owners are forced to take rum and wines in prior to get scotch.

The same hike is prevalent in the food line. Meats and other pre-war prices are 100% more than their pre-war price. Labor scales have also increased with virtually every line, from stagehands, musicians, bartenders, waiters, etc., now getting considerably more than in the 1940 period.

Simultaneously, nitery tariffs have been increased exponentially. During war years, OPA held the prices in line, and after controls were lifted, nitery didn't dare hike menus too much, as the business decline started about that time, and any operator that attempted to get too much of bonus would have gone out of business virtually overnight.

The safe business aren't feeling too much about the price of the help, but declare that act prices will have to come down drastically. A playable comedian, they say, will not draw any dough at the till runs up to \$2,000, and a first-rate singer costs around \$500 or more. Acts which in 1940 got \$500 are now in the \$2,000 class. And they're not bringing in the trade.

Classic example of the increase in the act list is seen in comparing the Harry Richman, Sophie Tucker, E. Lewis comic, which went into the Riviera in 1940. Package was set at \$6,500. Today Richman is getting \$2,500; Lewis \$4,500, and Miss Tucker, \$4,500—sometimes more for the latter two. At that, operators would be glad to pay those prices for these acts since they draw their coin at the box. If those without the draw and getting top sums that they're holding out.

Currently, business are pruning budgets by getting one topliner and paying no more than \$250 for support acts of Monte Proser of the Copacabana, is finding that policy to be successful.

Others, however, have other plans in view if prices aren't reduced. Some operators think they'll have to wait after New Year's, as others are considering eliminating chorus lines, while some think they'll reduce size of orchestras and operate with cheaper talent.

Talent agencies have been taking cognizance of the situation for some-

time and aren't fighting as hard for high salaries, as many are reluctant to pressure acts into taking lower salaries, fearing that talent will jump to other offices. This has already happened in many cases.

However, the business feel that with the New Year there will be no other alternative, and while prices of standard acts won't prevail to the 1940 level, cuts will reduce once talent finds that operators can't afford to shell out.

Copa, N. Y., Signs Pact With AGVA

Differences between Monte Proser, operator of the Copacabana, N. Y., and American Guild of Variety Artists over signing new pact with union and posting security to cover talent budget, were amicably adjusted this week.

Main controversy, according to both, hinged on the security issue. Spot had been willing to post a surety bond covering salaries but union demanded cash. Jack Estratier, general manager for Proser, finally got together with Matt Shelvey, head of AGVA, and Dave Fox, head of union's N. Y. local and worked out satisfactory deal.

According to union, Copa has signed basic agreement and posted the required security to cover salaries of performers in current show.

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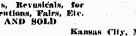
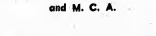
BROOKS ATKINSON, New York Times, says: "Nirnska definitely serves beauty in the theatre."

CHICAGO SUN says: "This great creative artist is alone in her field. Never has a dance achieved such awe-inspiring splendor."

BOSTON GLOBE says: "Nirnska's 'Dance of the Butterfly' is as distinguished and as beautiful as the 'Death of the Swan' as done by the great Pavlova."

Management: **MARK J. LEDDY.**

WORKING MANAGER



Too Much Heat, Not Enough Light

Continued from page 6

terprises are such that some united effort is needed to correct abuses or remedy inequities presently the rule rather than the exception.

The answer must be in the affirmative. The abuses may not be so many, but the inequities are.

1. The inequities stem from long-established trade customs; they stem from a lack of understanding of the primary importance of the right of the basic copyright and intelligent licensing (as distinct from the right of sale) of the subsidiary rights.

2. Does there presently exist a channel, a means, an instrumentality or an organization of which the writers, individually and collectively, might make effective use for the purpose of remedying the conditions complained of?

I think the answer must again be in the affirmative. The Authors League of America has a long and honorable history of endeavor to improve the situation of the writer as a whole and of writers as individuals; the Authors Guild, Screen Writers Guild, Musician's Union and Dramatists Guild are, within the framework of the parent Authors League, organizations that should indicate the fields of the profession. There is the American Newspaper Guild and such other organizations in the field of creative writing as the American Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers, Songwriters Protective Assn. and others.

What are the Abuses?

3. Specifically, what are the abuses and/or inequities complained of, and for which a remedy is sought?

These are many—fewer though than they have been in years past. I shall not in this case answer by question but state as a fundamental that most all of them flow (a) from the fact that as a rule the author is not the owner of his basic copyright, (b) that subsidiary rights are as a rule sold outright, rather than leased or licensed, and (c) the use for stated periods, and (d) the author in making his deals is usually ignorant of the basic business and legal advice, but using his own judgment, often under considerable duress.

There is nothing new or startling in the idea that authors shall remain at least the exclusive owners, world-wide, of the basic copyrights in their respective works. On the contrary it is the fundamental theory of all copyright law throughout the world that this shall be the case, "that no property more peculiarly a man's own than that which is produced by his mind."

Copyrights, in every country in the world having copyright laws, are granted to the author of a copyrightable work. (The law of the U. S. is an exception in that it provides that the creator of a work written "for hire" the employer may be regarded as the author.)

It is of the very essence of the convention and theory of copyright law that the grant by government of the exclusive right "to print, to publish, to vend, and to make other commercial uses of the work, is to the author. As Cain (and others) say, "the copyright is a property." He (and many others) want this property to be retained outright, exclusively and entirely, for his entire world, by the author and his heirs, for the term of the term of the copyright, if that term be borne in mind that the term of the copyright is always limited (in the U. S. for a first term of 28 years renewable during the last year of the first term for an additional 28 years), and that at the expiration of the legal term the property falls into the public domain.

Many of these properties are of enormous value. At the outset few copyrights are worth anything at all as a work of art, at least at the introduction of the work, and it later became enormously valuable. The states depriving man of his property have suffered extreme poverty because of the stupid business men made—their loss of business acumen displayed by the deceased during his lifetime.

Crux of the Problem

I think the crux of the problem for which Cain (and the others)

seek a solution lies in the fact that it has long been a custom of the trade for the author to make an outright sale of his copyright, including subsidiary rights. During recent years there has been a trend in which the author has been in question but that it can and should be still further improved.

There is no question but that there is a room for improvement in the lot of authors, and that it can be brought about only by organized effort, intelligently directed. It should be attempted, if possible, though existing and established instrumentalities are being created new ones. The movement should be representative of the entire field of authors.

I conclude with the suggestion that a council or congress should be created, which each of the various organizations would be invited to send an elected delegate. It in turn would elect a representative to the organization and the draft of a constitution and bylaws clearly stating the rights of the proprietorship between the author and commercial users of his material, the individual through his organization becomes proprietor of his material.

It is elemental, however, that he must entrust to the organization the subsidiary rights to establish working and trading conditions, the right to send approval of agreements to the author, and the right to make, democratically adopted and impartially administered. He must administer in kind and manner the standard practices established by the profession by its representative organizations.

There is nothing new or revolutionary in either the proposal of AAA, that a central authority should be created, or the one that the individual members of a craft or profession shall submit their respective rights to the control of such measures of control. There are literally thousands of precedents, the history of the world is full of the policies and practices of the labor unions to which, in effect, most of the free men of the world are subject. The right to work, to earn a living.

A persuasive example is history in the successful history of ASCAP. This organization represents just one of the subsidiary rights that "non-dramatic public performance for profit" under the musical copyright, which the members of the organization are pooled by all the members by their individual assignments running the organization.

In the course of its development ASCAP found that it could not hope to have the grant of the author of a copyrightable work. (The law of the U. S. is an exception in that it provides that the creator of a work written "for hire" the employer may be regarded as the author.) It is of the very essence of the convention and theory of copyright law that the grant by government of the exclusive right "to print, to publish, to vend, and to make other commercial uses of the work, is to the author. As Cain (and others) say, "the copyright is a property." He (and many others) want this property to be retained outright, exclusively and entirely, for his entire world, by the author and his heirs, for the term of the term of the copyright, if that term be borne in mind that the term of the copyright is always limited (in the U. S. for a first term of 28 years renewable during the last year of the first term for an additional 28 years), and that at the expiration of the legal term the property falls into the public domain.

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Crux of the Problem
I think the crux of the problem for which Cain (and the others)

right assignment to their national society (similar to ASCAP) of their performing rights. None of these societies (except perhaps those in Russia and Spain) exercises control over or in any manner attempts to change the political complexion of musical works.

With complete assurance we may discontinue any apprehension or fear that the political complexion of AAA, or any organization with similar purposes, could be either successfully changed or perpetuated. There were even a slight disposition manifested toward editorial or censorious control of the music, but the administrative group or individual.

"Twitting Nonsense"
There is no question but that there is a room for improvement in the lot of authors, and that it can be brought about only by organized effort, intelligently directed. It should be attempted, if possible, though existing and established instrumentalities are being created new ones. The movement should be representative of the entire field of authors.

I conclude with the suggestion that a council or congress should be created, which each of the various organizations would be invited to send an elected delegate. It in turn would elect a representative to the organization and the draft of a constitution and bylaws clearly stating the rights of the proprietorship between the author and commercial users of his material, the individual through his organization becomes proprietor of his material.

It is elemental, however, that he must entrust to the organization the subsidiary rights to establish working and trading conditions, the right to send approval of agreements to the author, and the right to make, democratically adopted and impartially administered. He must administer in kind and manner the standard practices established by the profession by its representative organizations.

There is nothing new or revolutionary in either the proposal of AAA, that a central authority should be created, or the one that the individual members of a craft or profession shall submit their respective rights to the control of such measures of control. There are literally thousands of precedents, the history of the world is full of the policies and practices of the labor unions to which, in effect, most of the free men of the world are subject. The right to work, to earn a living.

A persuasive example is history in the successful history of ASCAP. This organization represents just one of the subsidiary rights that "non-dramatic public performance for profit" under the musical copyright, which the members of the organization are pooled by all the members by their individual assignments running the organization.

In the course of its development ASCAP found that it could not hope to have the grant of the author of a copyrightable work. (The law of the U. S. is an exception in that it provides that the creator of a work written "for hire" the employer may be regarded as the author.) It is of the very essence of the convention and theory of copyright law that the grant by government of the exclusive right "to print, to publish, to vend, and to make other commercial uses of the work, is to the author. As Cain (and others) say, "the copyright is a property." He (and many others) want this property to be retained outright, exclusively and entirely, for his entire world, by the author and his heirs, for the term of the term of the copyright, if that term be borne in mind that the term of the copyright is always limited (in the U. S. for a first term of 28 years renewable during the last year of the first term for an additional 28 years), and that at the expiration of the legal term the property falls into the public domain.

Many of these properties are of enormous value. At the outset few copyrights are worth anything at all as a work of art, at least at the introduction of the work, and it later became enormously valuable. The states depriving man of his property have suffered extreme poverty because of the stupid business men made—their loss of business acumen displayed by the deceased during his lifetime.

Crux of the Problem
I think the crux of the problem for which Cain (and the others)

Crux of the Problem
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Variety Bills

WEEK OF DECEMBER 4

Announcements in connection with bills receive multiple opening days of show

Letters in parentheses indicate the number of bills in the bill (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100) (101) (102) (103) (104) (105) (106) (107) (108) (109) (110) (111) (112) (113) (114) (115) (116) (117) (118) (119) (120) (121) (122) (123) (124) (125) (126) (127) (128) (129) (130) (131) (132) (133) (134) (135) (136) (137) (138) (139) (140) (141) (142) (143) (144) (145) (146) (147) (148) (149) (150) (151) (152) (153) (154) (155) (156) (157) (158) (159) (160) (161) (162) (163) (164) (165) (166) (167) (168) (169) (170) (171) (172) (173) (174) 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Inside Stuff—Legit

expressed by Kynaston Reeves. Victoria Hopper brings the required sweetness to Amelia, Frank Tickle a real bit of Thackeray as Joe Sealey, Buena Bent infuses plenty of (Continued on page 52)

Edwin Maxwell and Viola Fray play the Pop and Mom roles.

the "poppin'" are among the 10 invading the Philippines.

g | "Finlan's Rainbow"—Lee Sabinso
and Walter R. Katzell.

Christian Lude is suitably bois

(Continued on page 52)

Continuing In The Box Office Spotlight!



Talent

Business along the road shows slight increase everywhere. The year's surprise in box office weight points to Vaughn Monroe, whose figures are amazing smart judges of talent value. Rise in popularity largely credited to his Victor record sales. Monroe has tipped records in all four sections of the country and is being shrewdly managed with personal appearances wisely gauged and timed.

MUSIC BUSINESS NOVEMBER, 1946

STARTING OUR PRESENT TOUR OF ONE NIGHT ENGAGEMENTS

JUST BROKE ALL EXISTING RECORDS AT THE METROPOLITAN THEATRE, PROVIDENCE, WITH 15,275 PAID ADMISSIONS ON SUNDAY NOV. 24

*Theatre does not open until 1 P. M. due to Sunday Law.



"VAUGHN MONROE CAMEL PROGRAM"

EVERY SATURDAY
At 7:30 P.M. EST; 6:30 P.M. CST;
5:30 P.M. MST; 6:00 P.M. PST;
Via CBS, Coast-to-Coast

EXCLUSIVE
VICTOR
RECORDING ARTIST

Personal Management
MARSHARD MUSIC

VAUGHN MONROE

- Opening **STRAND**, NEW YORK - Dec. 26
 - Opening **PALLADIUM**, LOS ANGELES - Feb. 4
- 6 WEEKS LIMITED ENGAGEMENT

EXCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT
Willard Alexander
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK

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VOL. 165 No. 1

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1946

PRICE 25 CENTS

THEATRE

Oscar Derby Candidates Jockey For Showcase Positions in Mad Scramble

By ARTHUR UNGAR

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Annual rush for showcases to house prospective Academy Awards candidates is unusually heavy this year with the number of deluxe pictures turned out. There was also the handicap of the studio strike and the difficulty of getting pictures ready for release. All of which made December a tough month to get placements with result that independent producers claimed they were not getting the breaks of the majors in playdates. As a consequence, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences modified its by-laws Nov. 18, causing a turmoil that led to last Friday night's special meeting, at which the old rules were reinstated.

However, it still looks as though there will be an annual battle between the majors and indies on playdates and conditions for Acad candidates. Most producers feel that pictures pointed for Academy consideration have the best chance of getting released towards the end of the year as the old rule of out-right, out-of-mind seems to prevail with respect to pictures released early in the year and such films do.

(Continued on page 49)

SHOWMEN CHASED BACK TO RR TRAVEL

Number of people in show biz who do a lot of traveling have been exclaiming from planes to trains because of poor service by the airlines. Squawks are numerous concerning slipshod manner of operations of ticket and reservations departments and frequent delays in takeoffs when weather isn't directly to blame. Airlines, acknowledging justification of some of the pecks, but maintain they're doing all possible to clear up the situation by adding equipment and substituting higher grade personnel for some of the lower-middle.

Particularly maddening to travelers is inability to get the airlines' baggage claim, lines being forever busy. Companies assert they are getting additional planes as fast as

(Continued on page 49)

British May Film Saga Of 'Stars & Stripes' First

British are aiming to get the jump on filming the story of the GI publication, Stars and Stripes, a subject which is a natural for treatment in celluloid. Michael Powell, producer for Arthur Rank, is from a musical around the sheet with the London Times Bldg., site of the British Council, for local point of the picture. Powell is currently seeking Jack Buchanan, British musical comedy star, for lead as editor-in-chief.

Story will play up the comic differences between the dashing, irreverent GI reporters and the British in bowlers and striped pants. Both thronged the building, since the London Times also had its chief office there.

Runyon Dead at 62

Damon Runyon, veteran newspaperman and author, died in New York last night (10th) after a lingering illness. He had been in a coma several days.

Though Runyon had been ailing several years, he had continued his heart-stoppinging during all that period. His age was 62.

Plastic Toe Stuff A Costly Hobby

Recent court win by Lucia Chase in an income tax case continues to spotlight one of the most unusual figures in show business. Deductions made by Miss Chase, as had debts, of \$16,100 loaned to the Mordkin Ballet in 1939 and \$241,500 loaned to Ballet Theatre in 1940, were upheld in the N. Y. Tax Court.

The figures are reminder that Miss Chase, heiress of the Ewing rug millions, who is sole stockholder of Ballet Theatre as well as one of the company's dancers, will have posted an estimated \$1,500,000 into bullet by the end of the season, to represent financial contributions for the past nine years. Only the loans mentioned above, however, were used for tax deduction purposes.

No other individual has ever spent so much money on ballet. The Marquis de Cuevas (who married into the family) had spent \$1,500,000.

(Continued on page 49)

Irene Winston Writes Pic for Self But Told She's Not Her Own Type

Encke-Lion has picked up an original story from radio actress Irene Winston—but Miss Winston isn't happy about it. Femme, who's long been a soap opera regular, decided a few months ago that the only way she was going to break into pictures was to write a yarn built around herself as heroine.

So she sat down and turned out a 25-page original, "practically using a mirror when I was writing the description of the principal character." Her agent sold the script to Benji Jacobson, R-L's eastern studio rep, explaining that Miss Winston was aiming to sell it as a package deal including herself.

Jacobson looked at the script, looked at Miss Winston and told her the inevitable. He liked the yarn and would buy it, he said—but Miss Winston wasn't the type to play the lead.

(Continued on page 49)

ON PROWL FOR 'MESSAGE' FILMS

After almost a year-and-a-half of producing escapism, innocuous biographies and generally frothy b.o. fare, Hollywood appears once again to have "gone significant." Whether it is the result of the lull to which the American film industry has been put during the past month from all quarters, or merely reflects a swing from the reaction against significance which set in at the end of the war, isn't clear. Nevertheless, story departments have definitely switched to a search for yarns "with something to say."

Four companies, as a matter of fact, have acquired unusual yarns of high purpose recently and are preparing to give them important treatment. Paramount has taken an option on "Sealed Verdict," novel being written by correspondent Lionel S. Shapiro around the Nazi war criminal trials; 20th-Fox has taken title to "Stool Pigeon," factual story by Lawrence Blaine which is unique in that the stool pigeon is treated sympathetically, the yarn delving

(Continued on page 54)

Coal Strike Ebb Eases Industry

Like a flash flood, the 12-day coal strike threatened to engulf show business, and then subsided quickly, leaving more damage to nerves than to actual grosses. That the entertainment industry wasn't hit harder is due to two factors: the usual pre-Christmas slump was already well under way when the strike opened and coal supplies, already in transit when the miners quit, were enough to take care of basic needs during the unexpectedly short existence of the walkout. End of the strike came just in time, however, to prevent film houses from plunging into perhaps the worst pre-Xmas slump in five years.

Probably the worst effect of the shortage was felt by theaters, which were already suffering under one of the worst slumps in the past 10 years. Without the bright lights of Broadway, New York business were lost in the brownout. B.o. takes had begun a dangerous slide when John

(Continued on page 54)

20% Nifty Tax Too Tough A Hurdle for the Bistros

That 20% nifty tax must come off if the bistros are to survive. So insist the bonifayers in view of the currently diminishing spending dolars.

During the free-spending war years when a guy or the town raised his sights to \$50 or \$100 for an "nifty" fun he did worry about that \$20 U. S. tax, the size of the tip, etc., but now he's even adding the clerk's to make sure of the total.

Florida Given the Chill by Biz Fiz; High Prices Sour Grapefruit League

Sinatra's 'Jazz Singer'

Frank Sinatra, who has been the object of a number of offers for the one picture a year he's allowed to do outside the Metro lot, has finally settled on doing the "Jazz Singer" for Warner. This film, which he has wanted to do for several years as a remake of the original Al Jolson version, is tentatively slated to go before the cameras around March 15.

Either Jerry Wald or Alex Gottlieb will produce.

Prez Birthday Ball Gets D. C. Brushoff

Washington, Dec. 10. Washington, hub of the President's Birthday Ball celebrations since they commenced more than a decade ago, will probably have none this year—which may result in a tapering off of similar affairs in other cities.

The Washington parties, hyped by luncheon at the White House, have been featured by name Hollywood stars who have drawn crowds to the town's leading hotels and to the big vaude show at the Arena.

Understanding here is that local (Continued on page 55).

Show Biz Ballyhoo To 'Bring History To The American People'

Washington, Dec. 10. Radio, films, magazines and newspapers were asked today (10) by U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark to give full publicity to a Government scheme to send historical documents, including the original Bill of Rights and the Treaty of Paris, on the road. At a special

(Continued on page 54)

Miami, Dec. 10. The most concerted "wall heard in this glitter area since the mid-20s was sounded by local businessmen as December dawned in a series of rain squalls and high winds to add to the already sad situation for hotels, nightclubs and shops, which have been anticipating another lush winter. All have been caught short on too-high prices and big stocks for an almost non-existent business.

Generally, outside is 60% in most fields, and the situation looks to decline in the next few weeks, before taking a turn for the better. There are plenty of people in town, but they are not spending. Most seem to be looking for jobs, with a 20-for-one average on applicants. Rumors and reports up north of the high prices prevailing, plus those fantastic 340-a-day rates in some of the beachfront hotels, haven't helped any. A thorough checkup revealed most hotels were set for a pickup around Christmas, a drop over mid-January. From then on, perhaps—for most, only about 10 hotels on say they are booked full for three months. The rest, as attested to by ads now being run in northern newspapers, by the hotel groups

(Continued on page 53)

'NEW ORLEANS' PRESS PREVIEW VIA VIDEO

Hollywood, Dec. 10. First film to be given a press preview via television—though not the first current release telecast—will be attempted by Don Lee's WEXAO with Jules Dreyer's "New Orleans," which United Artists will release. Date and manner in which event will be handled have not been set.

A special 16mm print is being released to the press and will be duplicated around the country. UA also plans video showings of the film for press and exhibitors throughout the country. Theatre world premiere is set for Feb. 18 in New Orleans.

The Hour Of Charm

All-Girl Orchestra and Choir

Conducted by Phil Spitalny
Sundays, 4:30 P.M., EST.
CBS Network

Several Picture Firms Now Ready To Aid Industry Foundation If Plan Can Reach More Practical Stage

Sizeable donations may be made by picture film companies before the end of the current year to tie off the \$100,000 fund being sought to initiate the Motion Picture Foundation. The industry is expected to provide aid to needy workers and former workers in the film industry. Some of the industry leaders who gathered in New Orleans last week to lay plans for the MPF resolved there to get the \$100,000 amount within the next two years and several majors are ready to give the fund a heavy push on its way if difficulty can be worked out.

Difficulty is that the MPF doesn't actually exist yet as any more the semi-formulated idea. Attorneys only now are starting to consider the legal and by-law work which will make it an entity. Film companies, on the other hand, are anxious to make their initial donations—which they plan to give at some time any way—this year inasmuch as high profits will permit them to give larger sums than they may be able to hand out later. However, since the MPF doesn't legally exist yet, it presents a problem.

Lawyers are going over the situation and it is expected that within a lawful method will be found to put the coin in trust against the time the plan can accept similar institutions are said to have arisen with other organizations and other business and been worked out successfully.

The \$100,000 suggested by the MPF on financial records of Karl Holtzleiter, head of the Paramount-affiliated Interstate Circuit in New York, has been set as a starting point. "We know that the Foundation will greatly exceed that, reaching \$250,000 in perhaps five years and \$100,000 or more eventually," declared Barney Balaban, Par proxy, who chairmanned the overall coordinating committee.

Early Fund
Considerable discussion took place at the New Orleans conference, presided over by E. V. Richards, Jr., president of the Famous Players-Lasker circuit there, on the amount of the Foundation's capital fund that might be raised. Consensus was that not more than 5% be used in order to insure continuity of the Foundation. Balaban estimated that with the \$100,000 base, that would give the fund expendable on up to \$1,300,000 a year.

Originally conceived as primarily a welfare fund to take care of age and sick industries not otherwise provided for by individual companies, bounds were considerably broadened in the report to last week's meeting of the scope committee.

(Continued on page 20)

Cornel Wilde and Mrs. May Do Broadway Play

Cornel Wilde and his wife, Patricia Leigh, may do a Broadway legit together after Wilde completes his thespian career in "For the Love of Art," now in the cameras on the 20th-Fox lot. Wilde disclosed before returning to the Coast that he had received several offers from Theatre, Inc., adding the repertory company's new rule policy would probably be best for him since he can't take too much time off from the studio. His latest appearance was in a 1946 production of "Roméo and Juliet," starring Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh.

Wilde declared he also like to take a hiatus from the studio to develop his story of "The Captive," the 20th starting role after "Amber," on which he collaborated on the screen with Robert Taylor. Curtis Brown agency has publishers interested in the venture, he said, and the studio is definitely interested, since it could promote the book to hype interest in the picture. With his information already assembled for the screenplay, Wilde predicts he could write the book in two months.

Wilde said that "Amber" is half-way through production and should be wound up by next March. He and his wife took a vacation during the middle of a shooting the picture to give him a chance to recuperate from the recent illness. While away a week in Nassau and then five days visiting their families in New York,

John Wilstach

treats with the trials of writers in

"Crub Street"

one of the many features of

VARIETY'S

41st Anniversary Number

QUIET SET MONTH IN PIC SCOT TRADING

Philadelphia, Dec. 10. Activity in film stocks was comparatively quiet during the month ending Nov. 10, according to the latest report of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Ben Kalmenson reported the acquisition of 2,000 shares of Warners common on Nov. 20, at \$10.50 a share. Charles D. Fritzman disposed of 400 shares of Universal stock at \$10.50 a share. Charles S. Guggenheim bought 300 shares of Warner stock at \$10.50 a share. Carlisle added 100 shares to his holdings.

J. Cheever Cowdin disposed of 100 shares of Universal stock at \$10.50 a share. He also reported his holdings of Universal stock at 11,937 shares. Charles D. Fritzman disposed of 400 shares of Universal common, making his holdings 6,100 shares.

F. L. Metzler reported on August 10 that he exercised his option for the purchase of 1,000 shares of 20th-Fox common.

Deals in Paramount common were confined to sale of 100 shares by Lehman Bros. John D. Hertz reported holding 2,000 shares of Paramount common.

Commercial Short Uses

Eastman's New 16mm Color
First production New York stock news commercial 16mm, Kodachrome has just been completed at the RKO-Pathe New York office by the Texas Co. Film, completed against a 30-day deadline, runs about 26 minutes and features Eddie Bracken. Bracken is topbilled in the Texaco (CBS) radio show.

New feature of the Eastman process is reproducibility of the color prints. Previously prints have suffered by reproduction, but the new film can be duplicated on a mass-production basis without loss of color quality, according to RKO production men.

Picture, entitled "Where You Go, Mister," will be shown at sales and district managers' meetings and local conventions throughout the country to get across sales message and technical features. Format utilizes a combination of slides and film.

Picture was written, staged and produced by RKO-Pathe under supervision of William Greer, executive and Clay Adams for the studio.

Greg Bauter
Al Bloomfield
A. Pam Blumenthal
Charles Brackett
Geraldine Brooks
Fred Crook
Ernest Friedman
Joseph Friedman
Norman Goddard
Charles Goldsmith
Ben Hecht
Helen Jepson

Joseph Cotten
Mrs. Henry Ginsberg
Melvyn Douglas
George Durgun

Sam Goldwyn
Hans Ledwyr

Elsa Maxwell
Glady's Mowell

Europe to N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Milland
George Welner
Adolph Zukor

VIP O'Brien

A cable arrived at Buckingham Palace recently addressed to Pat O'Brien, "care of King George VI, England." One of the Palace officials asked the American Embassy where O'Brien could be located, "in Italy," he was told, and forwarded to him care of the "Pope."

Majors Pension Plans Shaping After MPF Meet

Following through on recommendations made at the Motion Picture Foundation meet at New Orleans, majors without existing pension systems are shaping plans, with the ultimately putting pensions into effect. Action conforms with resolution passed at confab, whereby the MPF to care for the industry's needy. Majors were then asked to continue ad hoc, representative committees, for added employee security and to regard MPF as supplementing rather than replacing company systems.

Pension plans now in effect at Metro, RKO and 20th-Fox are estimated to cost millions of long-term operations. Warner Bros. and United Artists have been studying other systems and reportedly will put into effect their own within a short time. Other majors, while not so far along the way, are expediting systems within the foreseeable future.

Metro scheme, initiated in March, 1944, calls for 400 shares of common to be sold to employees. Pensions guaranteed to all personnel with the company a minimum of five years' service. Employees are paid 60 for women and 65 for men with mandatory payments for at least 10 years. (Continued on page 20)

FOY-BENJAMIN-KRIM COAST POWWOW ON E-I

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Bryan Foy held an all-day meeting yesterday (9) at which time several films were gandered and a reciprocal release deal between Foy's Rank and United Artists was discussed. Robert Benjamin, Rank organization proxy, will run in the picture, and Foy is talking over business matters and also discussing release deals made with Rank with Universal-International.

Arthur Krim, E-I president, and Foy were for Dallas today (10) and then head for Chicago for regional sales meets, returning Monday to continue talks with Benjamin.

Chas. Vidor on Stand In His Suit Against Col.

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Charles Vidor took the stand yesterday (Monday) in the opening of his suit against Columbia Pictures Inc. in a \$75,000 suit for breach of the seeking \$75,000 for 30 weeks of his contract still to run.

Vidor testified to profane language used on him and also that he was fired from his wife's former Doris Warner in course terms.

L. A. to N. Y.

Julian Johnston
Charlotte Landis
Aise Laestegre
Marion Martin
Paul Muntz
Donald Novis
Anne Nichols
Merle Oberon
Norman Panama
Jack Sayers
Natalie Schaffer

N. Y. to L. A.

John Huston
Ralph Peer
William Pizer
Tommy Rockwell

N. Y. to Europe

Leon Schlesinger
Hal Wallis
Rupert Hughes

John Ringling North
Arturo Toscanini

Europe to N. Y.

George Welner
Adolph Zukor

More U. S. Dollar Exchange for British Films Will Be Stressed by Johnston

Thyra Samter Winslow

discusses on

"Freelance Writers"

a feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number of

VARIETY

15 TOP M-G FIELD MEN TO GET 'H'WOOD UNKET

In one of the first sales meets of the year, Metro is slated to bring together 15 field men from various parts of the country for a tour of five key cities and the Metro studios in Culver City. Purpose of the meet is to give the men a chance to study conditions in different parts of the country, thereby gaining an overall working knowledge of sales problems confronting the company.

Fifteen men selected on their records for the last year ending Aug. 31, will confer with each of the five district managers and with Louis B. Mayer at the studio. Field reps, according to William F. Rodgers, vice president, will get a chance to acquaint themselves "more fully with the operations of our company on the whole" and familiarize themselves with activities as they embrace sales and production.

First in the series of meets is slated for the Hotel Astor, N.Y., on Dec. 10, when eastern sales chief John P. Byrne will lead the huddle. Central sales manager

Walter H. Money will head the meet at the Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, on Feb. 10-12; midwestern sales manager, J. H. Hickey, Chicago, Feb. 13-15; southern sales manager Rudolph Berger at New Orleans, Feb. 16-18; and western sales manager George A. Hickey at Los Angeles, Feb. 21-23.

Fifteen men include John S. Allen, district manager with headquarters in Washington; branch managers Louis Forman, Philadelphia; Jack Mondatt, Buffalo; Saul Gottlieb, Pittsburgh; Ben Rosenwald, Charlotte; C. Kennedy, New York; and C. W. Gillingham, San Francisco. Salesmen Phil Bobbs, Washington; Frank Jenks, Philly; Irving Charloff, Philadelphia; Ray Trivette, St. Louis; Dan De Mone, and Alex W. Weisman, L. A.; Washington office manager Joseph Kromann, and Pittsburgh booker Max Shabason.

Liberty Rushing Capra's 'Life' in Time for Xmas

"Liberty Films is planning to keep the Christmas spirit alive by rushing the picture to the screen on the wire with sufficient prints for about 50 Christmas Day openings of George Capra's "Life." Release of the picture was suddenly moved up recently because RKO, which is distributing, could get Technicolor prints of "Sinbad," for which "Life" is being rushed as company's holiday offering.

Lab will start on "Life" prints (its black and white) Friday (13) and will keep cutting prints every day and four each night on overtime. Pic will be premiered at the RKO, N. Y., at 8 p.m. on Dec. 20 and trade-down at the Normandie, N. Y., Dec. 19. Only copy not available in the country is the scratched work print, is being bicycled to censor boards preparatory to opening.

Advancement of release date also put a heavy load on publicity-advancing department of RKO. Liberty to get campaigns started in a hurry.

Westcott to Update N. Y. House

Harold Westcott, ex-G.I. is operating in the department of the New York (suburb of Ux) with Nate Robbins' son, Robbins, Sr., one-time Ux exhibitor, has entered arena.

Need for giving British pictures all possible playing time in the U. S. to head off more restrictive English legislation was stressed by Eddie Johnston to major company toppers at the regular quarterly board meeting of the Motion Picture Association in Washington today (Wednesday). Warning absent necessity of sending picture to the U. S. to head off more restrictive English legislation was stressed by Eddie Johnston to major company toppers at the regular quarterly board meeting of the Motion Picture Association in Washington today (Wednesday). Warning absent necessity of sending picture to the U. S. to head off more restrictive English legislation was stressed by Eddie Johnston to major company toppers at the regular quarterly board meeting of the Motion Picture Association in Washington today (Wednesday).

MPA exec's conclusions drawn from the British visit will be the major point on the board's agenda, although a number of other matters are slated to come up. In the event of discussion, will be the squawks which resulted from action at the last board meeting, which called the Production Code to allow pictures about dope traffic. Since that step has gotten as much approval, even if not so vocal—as the bees, it is thought highly unlikely that the board will back out.

Current British quota law expires in March, 1948, and the industry is expected to see the British signing of increasing the playing time guaranteed for domestic product on British shores. Under American law, the year goes up to 20%. Johnston feels that it is almost inevitable that there will be much higher percentage of British pictures unless American companies make a real effort to even up the film balance of trade. British quotas, which are based on the year's estimated at \$75,000,000 to \$100,000,000 against around \$8,500,000 sent from here to Britain.

MPA head on the other hand, will report to the board on his talks with British officials and the results of a Republican victory at the polls last month. He pointed out to English executives that the British are actually the party of restrictive tariffs and other measures to bolster American industry.

Johnston is expected to report expanding their market in the U. S. and not find themselves at the wrong end of a high tariff and results as, Johnston is reported to have explained, they would be up to restrictions against Americans.

Johnston nevertheless feels and (Continued on page 20)

Wanger Commuting East For Ingrid Pic Huddles

Walter Wanger is due east after Christmas for further huddles with Ingrid Bergman regarding the picture of the woman, which he and Miss Bergman will co-produce under the aegis of their recent production company, Wanger-Bergman. Wanger is also slated to star in the picture following the close of "Joni" in the U. S. Wanger is currently staying on Broadway.

Wanger brought a script for the picture east with him last week and talked it over with Miss Bergman before his return to the Coast Tuesday (8) night. He disclosed that his next picture for Universal-International release would be "The Sign of the Cross," which would have been set as one of the leads. Following that will be "Washington, D. C.," a picture which is a finalization of the James Street bestseller to be shot in Technicolor. Wanger is on his way to the U. S. to see a survey of the picture at the Hotel Roosevelt, N. Y., last Tuesday (3) night, and will be in the U. S. for the permitting Government control over films sent abroad, Wanger declared that it's known the Government would like to keep certain pictures from being exported because of their fear the pic might give the foreign picture a bad name.

Wanger wrote the idea of the year of life. To date, he said, the Government has taken no definite action in the matter. Wanger believes that now is the time to sound a note of warning against such a procedure.

UA Renews Golden Deal

United Artists' board of directors approved a three-year renewal deal with Golden Productions yesterday (10) calling for the company to start in 1947, to be distributed via

Picature will be "Eddie and The Archangel Mike," based on a Saturday Evening Post story. Sec-tions of the picture will be shot by Lloyd Bacon directing while the third is untitled as yet.

THEATRE TRAFFIC

Allied's Clir of Govt.-Industry Co-op Plans May Snafu Program

All-Industry cooperation sought by the Government for distribution of its films has been stalled by the refusal of Allied States Exhibitors' Association to approve go-ahead plans for the formation of an industry committee to coordinate the program. The committee would be in charge of all coordination now looms following the dispatch by National Allied States Exhibitors' Association to the committee heads informing them that the Washington and New York meets, recently held, had decided on steps not in accord with Allied aims. Theatre organization, according to the letter signed by Abraham F. Myers, Allied counsel, will have to both pull its directors by mail and vote at a board meeting before changes can be sanctioned.

Board meeting cannot be held before Jan. 30, when the next regular meeting of the unit is scheduled, Myers said. It is unfeasible, according to Allied, to push the date ahead for the general meet to discuss the question. Meanwhile, committee sponsors determined to run further the course of the industry organization without waiting Allied action.

Claiming the Allied shift in stance would hamper and weaken the unit, committee members settled over what they asserted is a breach of faith. "The point is that the committee," Allied had both Jesse L. Stern and Lee Newbury replying for it at the meets and that the committee had been along on all propositions. Industry brigades asserted that development by Allied, should it develop, would not only leave a double yard in exhibitor representation but would so embarrass relations between industry and the Government.

(Continued on page 49)

Connolly Seeks Film Biz Help in Campaign Vs. N. Y. License Bans

Film industry and legit biggie will be called upon by Councilman Bernard J. Connolly to back his fight to ban cancellation or suspension of theatre licenses in New York unless producers are convicted of a crime. An immoral pic or show is obtained Connolly's resolution, outgrowth of "The Blue Hell" squabble between N. Y. license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and United Artists, is referred to the Council's Committee of General Welfare for probable hearings after introduction yesterday (Tues.). Connolly later told Variety that he intended to invite a number of top film and theatre reps, besides civil liberty groups, to the hearings to battle for amendment to the city code.

Connolly could make no predictions as to the chances for his resolution because the opposition yet has to make itself known. From other sources, it's expected that the administration will square off for Fielding and fight the measure.

London in current news of the case was disclosed when Fielding successfully maintained that he was being bound to wait for a decision before moving against a theatre. Action taken by him forced Harry Brandt to chalk off a pact made with UA to preempt "Outlaw" in three Broadway houses. UA sought to reject the cancellation by Brandt but was licked both in the Supreme Court and the Appellate Division.

UA is continuing its legal battle to force open the New York market in another suit against Fielding. Last night is countering with a plea for outright cancellation of film's N. Y. state seal.

Trv Briskin May Succeed

Hollywood, Dec. 10. E. H. "Manny" Briskin, checked off the Columbia lot after holding the post of studio manager since 1935. Possibility that Harry Cohen, exec assistant to Harry Kahn, will take over the post in a realignment of policies at the studio.

Goldstein said he has stayed on the lot until Jan. 1 but had the privilege of leaving at any time up to that date.

Robert Gessner (Professor of Motion Pictures and Chairman of Department of Motion Pictures New York University)

"Movies Should Go to College"

an editorial feature
of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

British Pix Cos. Ogle Wall Street Listings for R.R.

Strapped for ready cash, British film companies have been sending over feelers to prominent Wall Street figures with a view to being listed on the New York Stock Exchange for trading. At present, the Electrical & Musical Industries is the only British company connected with the entertainment business listed on the Exchange.

According to reports from the U. S. financial center, listing of British film industry shares on the Stock Exchange may begin in 1947 although final approval for such a step would have to come from the British Ministry of the Exchange. J. Arthur Rank's combine has made no move to get on American exchange boards.

Both American and British financiers are reported ready to establish reciprocal agreements for stock transactions in view of the fact that the economic trade pact, arranged as part of the U. S. \$3,750,000,000 loan to Britain, became fully effective by July, 1947.

'Paradine' Delay Cues Ann Todd Film Nix

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Ann Todd, British actress, called off her one-picture deal with Universal-International because of delay in starting the David O. Selznick picture, "The Paradine Case."

English stars arrived here two months ago with two film commitments in Hollywood but the late start of "Case" made it impossible to fill both before reporting back to Reginald A. Rank in London. She will return some time next year for the U-I job.

U.S., U.K. ME TO SHOWCASE GOODS

Outbreak of full-scale international trade warfare between America and Britain for control of the world's available markets, which is definitely in the cards according to international trade experts, will use motion pictures being used as the heaviest artillery in each country's selling campaign. Help to the potent part film play in clearing the way for other products, British industrial magnates have been cooking with jaundiced eye on the onrush of American films into Europe, Asia, South Africa and Australia while U. S. economic machine is revving following the severe wartime dislocation.

In a concerted move to make up for lost time, high level talks have been held in London in recent weeks between J. Arthur Rank and other film producers and the British Board of Trade for initiation of a cooperative world-wide trade mission. The Rank organization has already set up a special department to establish liaison with 300 United Kingdom manufacturers of key materials.

Maxim that trade follows the film and that film sells goods was confirmed once again recently by reports that American inter-office communication equipment boomed in Sweden after their pictureization in an imported film. Similarly, in-

(Continued on page 28)

Springer of Century Sees Improved 2d Run N.Y. System Inevitable

Birth of another second-run system in New York which would see its place between that of the Loews' and RKO circuits is a probable result of the anti-trust decree. Joseph R. Springer, theatre head of Century Circuit, said last week. Century's split of major product between Loews' and RKO, with other theatres following, is going to lead into a three-ply fracture of product to take care of numerous indie houses which qualify for better than a plan. He stressed that the plan had not yet been developed further.

Century is not satisfied in a tumultuous exchange of bids and under competitive bidding, or otherwise, will aim to pull itself aside into a three-ply fracture of product to take care of numerous indie houses which qualify for better than a plan. He stressed that the plan had not yet been developed further.

What the idea will probably devolve into however, is an informal exchange of information on a non-business level. Besides the fact that an industry-wide grouping of forces

(Continued on page 22)

Checking Subsequent Too Costly, Swing to Flat Rentals in the Wind

Joe Laurie, Jr. In an historic place says "Wanna Know About Showmanship?" Get a Load of Willie Hammerstein"

an editorial feature
of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Distribs Pool To Service Foreign Exhibs With 16m

With foreign exhibs wary of opening up 16m operations through fear of a lack of sufficient product, 16m division toppers of the majors are considering banding together to present a combined front to the exhibs. Modus operandi of the organization is still in the primary talking stages but it's believed the chief purpose of the group would be to make the fact of narrow-gauge stock to those regions where it's needed most to permit exhibs to operate 52 weeks a year.

Barney Balaban, Paramount prexy, lent credence to reports that such an organization was in the making when questioned on rumors that Par and 20th-Fox were contemplating a combined 16m operation overseas. While not denying the Par-20th report, Balaban disclosed that the pressing need for 16m product had most of the majors to get together on a plan. He stressed that the plan had not yet been developed further.

What the idea will probably devolve into however, is an informal exchange of information on a non-business level. Besides the fact that an industry-wide grouping of forces

(Continued on page 22)

David Niven Receives Wife's 22G Estate

Los Angeles, Dec. 10. Will of the late Primala Susan Niven, filed for probate in Superior Court, left her entire estate, amounting to \$21,824, to her husband, David Niven, film star.

Mrs. Niven died last May 21 as a result of a fall downstairs during a party at the home of Tyrone Power.

A swing away from percentage deals on pic back to flat rentals in subsequent and last run houses is seemingly in the wind, according to indie exhibs and booking combine buyers. Latter don't know yet whether the new trend will be to their advantage but attribute it mainly to the increased costs of checking.

Several of the major distributors are reported to be converting their percentage terms over to flat rentals, basing the change on some overall average for each theatre's grosses during the last three or four years of unprofitably good business. Warners and 20th-Fox, according to the indie exhibitors, have led the way in making the changes as far as the smaller-grossing houses are concerned.

Although the reasons are not clearly defined yet, exhibs believe that the \$10-11 daily being paid checkers is the prime motivating factor. They point out that the trib charges 25% on a picture that grosses \$200 for a three-day run and a last run house. His take is \$75. Out of this amount, however, the exhib is forced to pay, as the exhibs say, \$35 in checking, leaving him only \$42. By converting to a flat rental deal, however, the distrib for a picture grossing \$200 for a three-day run would be forced to pay the exhib \$75 from an exhibitor without too much trouble, and he would therefore be able to operate 52 weeks a year.

What has the exhibs worried, despite the seeming windfall in the recovery stage, is the fact that the present boxoffice peak might begin a downward spiral within the next couple of months. The exhibs fear that the rental deals based on their current earnings would be considered too high.

6-Year Spread to O.O. Alleged % Chiseling Hits Exhibitors Hard

Exhibs upset on percentage charges must turn over to distributors their theatre books and records for a full six years prior to initiation of the suit, rather than the shorter period dating from the inkling of pic's licensing pact, under a decision of Federal Judge John P. Harrison made last week. Ruling along with a sweeping order was filed against Harry Horgan and the Opera House, Inc., operating the Opera House theatre, Metro, R. I. "Philadelphia" pictures, and the Horgan was hit further by a novel order of the court for whom the exhibs sought and obtain for inspection from Governmental agencies and banks, copies of all current payment slips, tax returns, bank deposit slips, bank statements and similar documents.

(Continued on page 20)

Double-Feature Hotes

Among those who will honor Billy Rose at the 1946 dinner of the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies (Thursday) at the Hotel Pierre will be Bernard M. Baruch, America's oldest statesman for whom the exhibs sought and obtain for inspection from Governmental agencies and banks, copies of all current payment slips, tax returns, bank deposit slips, bank statements and similar documents.

(Continued on page 20)

Malcolm Kinsberg, RKO Veepee, is co-chairman of the industry-wide appeal with Barney Balaban of Paramount, Jack Conn of Columbia Pictures, Spyros R. Skouras of 20th-Fox, and Albert Warner of Warner Bros.

The same group, the National Conference of Christian and Jewish Motion Picture Exhibitors, will honor Irving Berlin, Spyros R. Skouras and Robert E. Sherwood at a Waldorf luncheon. J. Robert Ruben has been acting as the general chairman of the amusement division of the NCCJ.

The 41st Anniversary Number

OF
VARIETY

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"BLUE SKIES"

Paramount's

SUCCESSOR TO "TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST"
AS AMERICA'S KING OF THE BOXOFFICE!

**NOW IT'S THE
NATION'S SENSATION,
AS FIRST COAST-
TO-COAST TESTS
REPEAT THE TRIUMPH
OF ITS 9 RECORD-
SHATTERING WEEKS
ON BROADWAY!**

Philadelphia

Biggest Paramount
opening in history of
Stanley Theatre!

Buffalo

New all-time high
for a Paramount
Picture!

Detroit

Variety reports:
"Terrific trade—will
hit colossal figure!"

San Francisco

"Biggest news here!"
says Variety. "The
only real smash in
town!"

Denver

Set new all-time record!
"Terrific... colossal,"
says Variety.

Boston

"Terrific!" says Variety.
"Biggest opening day
house ever had!"

Salt Lake City

Top holiday opening
gross in house history!

Atlanta

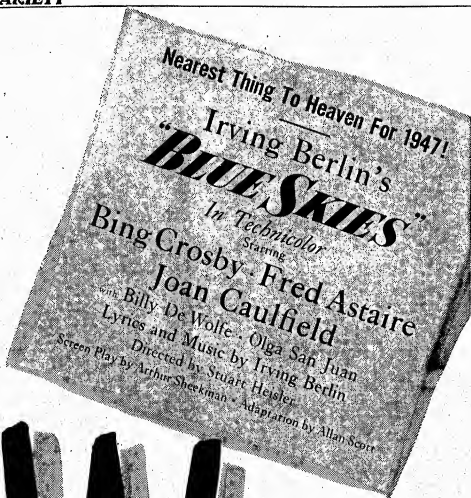
All-time Paramount
opening day record!

Minneapolis

"Despite handicaps,"
hit new house mark!"
says Variety.

St. Louis

Year's biggest
Paramount non-
holiday opening!



NEW HIGHS

Post-Xmas Bookings Point Up Product Shortage Already Here

Subsequent run and small-town exhibs, out to line up bookings for the post-Christmas boom period, are running into considerable difficulty in that they bring them up short with the realization that the oft-predicted product shortage is actually here. Such exhibitors find that, despite requests of any attempts to create a pinch, there's just about enough product available to carry them through the middle of January. After that, it's anyone's guess as to what will happen.

Situation is caused, according to exhibitor accusations, by the majors' attempt to create a sellers' market and so open the way to boosted film rental terms. Despite the big backlog of pictures available in exhibs, because of the Hollywood labor strike or other reasons, are still holding over their product in the city. City first runs to obtain as long runs as possible for them. Subsequent run houses, forced to wait for the picture, either hold their own pictures for longer runs or shop around for pictures to fill the balance of the season.

Illustrative of the pinch is the case of one small-town exhib, who has first run priorities of picture bookings. Paramount, 20th-Fox and Universal-International in his city. Along with Monogram, he has a PRC. Even with the seeming array of pictures, however, the exhib has discovered that all is not as easy as it seems.

For example, has only two new pictures in its current program. One of these, "Two Years Before the Mast," has already been run, while the other, "Blue Skies," he has already booked in as a New Year's special. In the same fashion, U-I has only "Dark Divisor" and "The Great Dictator" (Continued on page 26)

UA THEATRE CIRCUIT DOUBLES NET PROFIT

United Artists Theatre Circuit has issued a report stating that its net profit for the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 1946, takes represents a gain of almost 50% over the \$27.22 garnered by the chain in '45. Upped by 16, was indicated by disclosures that the theatres grossed \$1,952,417 before deduction of taxes, depreciation, interest and amortization in 1946, as against \$1,282,609 last year.

Stockholders' meet re-elected all incumbents and added Paul O'Brien, partner in the firm of O'Brien, Drycoll & Ratfery, to succeed his father, the late Dennis F. O'Brien. Directors tapped for another year are: William H. Moskowitz, Les Shubert, Joseph M. Schenck, Bertram S. Nayck, Charles E. Buckley, E. Craig, Howard V. King and William P. Phillips. Officers will be chosen during the meeting at a later date's meet.

Curtis-Wildberg's Civic, Chi, for Pix Roadshows

Joseph Curtis, son of Jack Cohn, Columbia executive vice-president, produced a four-week deal, ending Friday (7) together with legit producer John Wildberg for lease of the Civic Theatre in Chicago. Wildberg, who has leased alone up to last week and could not, by himself, get a renewal, turned out the house on a two-week roadshow policy following the "Henry V," currently playing there. The "Henry" booking Civic first played straight legit, having just closed 44 weeks of "Anna Lucasta." When lease was being signed, Curtis' special word was "legit." Wildberg, Rank's general sales manager for the United States, with a deal to play Prestige Pictures on a two-day basis. Deal was styled, however, Helen's, according to Curtis, when Helen's added \$1,000 to the first dollar on the first 20 Prestige titles. Because the films are virtually all unknown quantity in this country, and have had practically no word-of-mouth, exhibs say the price is too high. Curtis, however, refused to talk on any other terms.

Bing Crosby recalls a tale of a song-and-dance team in "Elihu Barremore's Hoke"

In the forthcoming
41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

20th's \$1,500,000 Budgeter Ideas

With probably the heaviest shelf of best-selling novels any studio has ever stacked up, 20th-Fox now is searching for yarns for lower-budget production to space out its top-notch \$1,500,000 look-out, of course, for best-sellers, company nevertheless feels that its principle need at the moment is acceptable stories that can be produced at top prices.

Novels and plays that are being sought are ones that fall in the \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 budget category. Chasing in Hollywood cost picture is evident by the fact that those figures—once the sign of extravagant production—now represent "lower budgeters." Toppers made from big novels and plays are being budgeted at from almost \$2,000,000 upwards.

Among lower-budgeters on 20th's shelf is "It's Only Money," a yarn which Quentin Reynolds wrote at studio's request, around group of top boat skippers who, during the war in the Pacific, formed a pool to go into any risky business. First thing they did was buy a racehorse, Reynolds' story told Larry Zuckun, unaided producer Louis De Rochemont, cost \$125,000 for the story and will receive \$37,500 more if the company films it. He's now working with Ben Hecht on screenplay of "Miracle of the Bells" for Lasky-MacFadden unit at RKO.

Pallos in U.S. to Set 'Teheran' Pic Distrib

Stephen Pallos, proxy of Penderis Pictures, British indie production outfit, based in New York, last week to set up an American distribution deal for his first picture, "Teheran." Film, a comedy, is an attempt on the part President Roosevelt to get the "Teheran" out in Rome with an all-English cast. Pallos explained he's been forced to go to Italy because of the lack of studio space in England.

General Film Distributors, J. Arthur Rank's distrib outfit, has agreed to distribute the picture in England and the British Empire. Next Penderis production, titled "Call of the Blood," is slated to go into production in England. This is to be shot at the Sound Cities studios in London. Film is an adaptation of the bestseller of the same name by Robert Hichens, author of "Garden of Allah" and "The Pandine Case," latter the production of Alfred Hitchcock. British, Lord Alexander Korda's distrib outfit, is to handle the picture in "Blood" in England and the Empire, Pallos said.

Pallos said he's proved the outfit had no financial tie-in with any American or British outfit but was being financed by a group of men in Stamford and an Italian group headed by Alos Tolmy. Pallos goes from New York to the Coast before returning to England in about four weeks.

EXCES TALENT FOR LOW COST PRICE

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Metro, continuing its efforts in its sights on a drastic reduction in production costs, is tuning its overhead for the elimination of excess manpower that has extended to the production departments at both the home office and the midwest. Overall reduction in operations in line with the cut in production from 31 pics in 1946 to 24 next year, should reach a total of between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000 for the current season.

Latest to feel the axe are the talent departments at the home office and in Chicago. Bill Deering, one of vespee Marvin Schenck's home-office talent scouts for many years, was dropped from the payroll over the weekend. Maurice Godin, head of the talent office in Chi for more than three years, will also be dropped and the Chi office shuttered. Godin is slated to leave for the Coast next week, his last day being Dec. 10. Mayor before announcing his future plans.

Despite increased production costs that have hit all studios with almost equal force, Metro to date is the only one to attempt to offset the results with a proportionate cut in operating costs. Other lots have been forced to stand by and hope that their costs might mean a decline in the quality of their product. Rather than that, consequently, they've had to make do.

(Continued on page 22)

SEGEL EXITS METRO TO PRODUCE ON OWN

Hollywood, Dec. 10. M. J. Segel, who served as a liaison between Metro and the American Committee with Sam Katz, Al Lichtman and Joe Cohn, is checking out his plans to begin his own indie production outfit.

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\$7-8 A Week in Pay

Strike Cost \$315,000 a Week in Pay But Production on Par With 1945

Maurice Zolotow gives a different slant on the theme in "My Hollywood Story"

An editorial feature of the
41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY
Published Soon

of
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Wyer Sees War Pix Cycle Soon

War pictures are currently in the doghouse because of public distaste for them, but in a few years Hollywood's studios will flood the theatres with literally hundreds of films about the shooting and what followed.

William Wyler, director of "The Best Years of Our Lives" and co-owner of Liberty Films, told members of the Cinema Chapter, American Veterans Committee, last week. Wyler, presently with AVC, predicted the cycle of war films will follow. "The public's weariness, exemplified in its search for escape in fiction, is going to die out in a few years," Wyler declared, "and then the studios are going to turn out a succession of war films. It is then that understanding and sincerity in execution of good stories will play a most important role. And knowing treatment by the studios is going to be important."

(Continued on page 27)

Briefs From the Lots

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Seymour Nebenzal started production on "Heaven Only Knows" for United Artists release with Albert Lewis as director. Nebenzal drew the heavy role in "Bells of San Angelo" at Republic. "Enterprise resumed filming at Columbia in "Burning Journey" at Enterprise.

Tom Donaldson returns to the "Love of Rusty" produced by John Haggart. "Derwin Abrahams produced "New York Nights" at the Lone Star at Columbia, with Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette in top roles.

Paramount sent a troupe of 85 for three days on location at Thousand Oaks to shoot sequences for "Saigon." One of the featured players in "Saigon" will be Betty Hutton, who will make her debut in "Saigon" as a singing and dancing star.

Jack Schwartz and Dave Fleischer are producing "Jack and the Beanstalk" as a tinted cartoon with live action. Columbia gave the green light to "Assigned to Treasure" with Dick Powell and Signe Hasso in the top roles. "Nauette Parks draws a heavy New York night role in "Captain." Paramount's "Musical" was inked by Kay Mulvey, western editor of "The Lone Star" at Columbia, was inked to play herself by Robert Riskin, in his RKO production.

James B. Cassidy Productions inked a deal to film "See What I Mean" based on the novel by "Brownie" Browne for Columbia release. Picture goes into work on the Columbia lot Feb. 3, with a script by Richard Collins and Anne Green Koch.

Universal-International assigned Ann Wigton to script "The Endowment" based on the Grace Amundson, mag story. "A Letter of Endorsement" by Billy Beane, former Mack Sennett comic, inked for "Moss Rose" at 20th-Fox. "Bernard W. Barton will be associate producer on "The Big Story" for Chester Productions. "Enterprise bought "The Black Cat" by Ladislav Fodor and turned it over to Wolfgang Pabst for production. Robert Preston, Catherine Craig, Barry Fitzgerald and Richard Webb will produce "The Black Cat" at Enterprise.

"Variety Film" at Paramount. "The Black Cat" at Paramount. "Enterprise borrowed Sheila Ryan from Eclair-Nebenzal production. "The Black Cat" at Enterprise. "Enterprise borrowed Sheila Ryan from Eclair-Nebenzal production. "The Black Cat" at Enterprise.

Peggy Knudsen draws a featured role in "The Unfaithful" produced by Richard Powell and Norma Macdonald. "Enterprise inked for a comic part in Republic's untitled musical, co-starring Nelson Eddy and Bette Midler. "Enterprise inked for a comic part in Republic's untitled musical, co-starring Nelson Eddy and Bette Midler.

Metro postponed the start of "Song of the Thin Man" from Dec. 16 to Christmas. "Pet Smith stars in work on "Pet Peeves" tent and last of his 1946-47 short subjects. "Enterprise inked for a comic part in Republic's untitled musical, co-starring Nelson Eddy and Bette Midler.

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Hollywood, Dec. 10. Loss of approximately \$300,000 in wages at the rate of \$315,000 per week was the sum set when totalling up the cost of the current studio strike. Production of films, however, stood up to last year's score, producers stated, as the third month of the labor draw draws to a close. During the same week last year, 45 films were in work, while 41 are currently shooting at various lots.

Conference of Studio Unions, meanwhile, took two steps in the strike action. Proxy Herbert Sorrell sent a wire to the producers repeating the three points necessary to be settled before their members return to work. Group is also sending committees on a tour around the country, asking support from all American Federation of Labor groups in staying away from films until the dispute is settled.

Points studied by the producers in Sorrell's wire ask for an early meeting of the union, a meeting of the arbitration machinery be adopted, contract signed and all those on the picket line be released. The union was reinstated without discrimination. However, the union's new contract, pending picketing order, was not reinstated. Municipal Judge Louis W. Kaufman.

"Father Divine" Pitch Richard F. Walsh, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees rep, returning to the union's cause after a two-months foray into the Hollywood labor tangle, reports that the IA has the situation under full control, according to the union chief, the eight-man picket line marching in front of the major lots are no longer impeding production with the total of 44 pictures now in work leaving studio capacity. Processing at the Technicolor plant has passed the 50% capacity level with 900 of the plant's studio workers now on the job.

Walsh indicated he was standing pat in the fight towards the Conference of Studio Unions, the IA's jurisdiction. Processing at the Technicolor plant has passed the 50% capacity level with 900 of the plant's studio workers now on the job.

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Betty Bowls Over



"Hilarious! Gag-strewn! Hutton field day! Click potentialities!"
—*Film Daily*

"Should mean happy days for the average exhibitor everywhere!"
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Should meet enthusiastic reception! The laughs come heartily!"
—*Boxoffice*

"Combines thrills and action to guarantee good boxoffice response!"
—*Daily Variety*

"Slick pace! Good entertainment! Humor and fun all the way!"
—*Independent*

"'Love Is The Darndest Thing' destined for great popularity!"
—*Film Bulletin*

"Michael Chekhov plays his screwball assignment to the hilt!"
—*Variety*

er the Trade Critics

As
PARAMOUNT

Delivers

Its Third

New-Season

Knockout...

"Cross My Heart"

starring
Betty Hutton
and
Sonny Tufts

with
Michael Chekhov
Directed by
John Berry

Produced by Harry Tugend - Screen Play by
Harry Tugend and Claude Binyon - Based on
a Play by Louis Verneuil and Georges Berr

Picked as the
*N. Y. PARAMOUNT'S
CHRISTMAS SHOW*

...successor to Paramount's
all-time-biggest, "Blue Skies"!

Pre-Xmas Dip Sloughs Chi Albert

Thrill Martin Big 5G; Tois' 3.5G

Chicago, Dec. 10. Loop houses currently seem to be in a pre-Xmas slump, with holdovers dipping to usual opening week grosses. "Marsie," at Oriental, is at \$25,000 to \$30,000, with "Out and About" added on. "The Merry Money" opened this week in "Thrill" at Brail, adding to the \$10,000 money opened by Tony Martin, which may go over \$75,000 now that the lights are on.

"Three Wise Fools," at United Artists, holds second best with an estimated \$25,000, a good "Nocturne" is strong \$23,000 in second grand week.

Estimates for This Week
Apple (Brail) (1,200; 95-) "Big Sister" (Brail) (5th wk). Off this week to \$12,000. Last week, fairly good \$14,000.

Brail (Brail) (3,000; 65-95) — "Thrill of Brail" (Col) (2nd wk). Estimated \$10,000. Eighth day should bring same \$10,000, or better. Last week, "Marsie" lives. "Out and About" (WB) with Lana Horne, in person, earned \$60,000 for 10 days.

Cle (Wilbur) (2,000; 65-95) — \$110.20 — "Henry V" (UA) (19th wk). Solid, around \$25,000.

Garrick (Brail) (900; 65-95) — "Darling Clementine" (20th) (7th wk). Small \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

Grand (RKO) (1,500; 65-95) — "Nocturne" (RKO) (10th wk). Last week, \$12,000. Over last week, high \$18,000.

Oranial (Esnaes) (3,400; 65-95) — "Marsie" (20th) with "Star and Garter" still on stage. First week after first week's sensational hit. Still pretty good \$12,000. Over last week, \$12,000.

Reverell (Brail) (2,500; 65-95) — "Cloak and Dagger" (WB) (10th wk). Last week, \$17,000. Last week, tidy \$19,000.

Star (Brail) (2,700; 65-95) — "Deception" (WB) (5th wk). Light \$17,000. Last week, \$17,000.

Three Wise Fools (M-G) (1,700; 65-95) — "Three Wise Fools" (M-G) (10th wk). Last week, \$17,000. Last week, \$17,000.

Woods (Esnaes) (2,000; 65-95) — "Woods" (Esnaes) (10th wk). Off this week to \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

Mirror Strong \$16,000, Best New Pic in Mpls.; Daughters Trim at 7G

Minneapolis, Dec. 10. "Daughters" predominates this week. The Holdovers "Marsie" and "Bachelor's Daughter" being the sole major draw.

"Marsie" (WB) (10th wk). \$16,000. "Bachelor's Daughter" (WB) (10th wk). \$16,000. "Marsie" (WB) (10th wk). \$16,000.

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Grosses Are Net

Film gross estimates, as reported herewith from the various cities, are net, with the 20% tax. Distributors share on net take, when playing percentage, hence, the estimated figures are net income.

The parenthetic admission prices, however, as indicated, include the U. S. amusement tax.

'Quentin' Hal Fine \$32,000, Hub

Not too severe let-down here this season after the gigantic Thanksgiving week. "Quentin" in 5G spots the rule but product socky and "Quentin" (WB) (10th wk). "Quentin" plus stage show at RKO, which is sturdy, and "Never Say Goodbye" (WB) (10th wk). "Quentin" and "Never Say Goodbye" (WB) (10th wk).

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'Nocturne' Vaude 14G Leads New Balto Pix

Baltimore, Dec. 10. Pre-holiday bids is beginning to run dry, but here with the new newcomers in an almost total field of repeaters. "Nocturne" at the combo Hippodrome, looks top new entry.

Estimates for This Week
Century (Loew's) (1,400; 20-60) — "Nocturne" (M-G) (10th wk). "Nocturne" well mounted at \$13,000 after \$19,000 opening.

Madame (Rappaport) (2,500; 20-70) — "Nocturne" (RKO) plus vaude headed by Freddie Burroughs. "Nocturne" (RKO) and vaude was helped by holiday trade to \$15,300.

Keith's (Shanaberger) (2,400; 20-60) — "Two Years Before the Mast" (Par) (3d wk). Starts third after \$12,000 second (2d wk) after \$12,000 second and small \$4,800 initial.

Mayfair (Hicks) (880; 25-55) — "Always Love You" (Rep) (8th wk). "Always Love You" (Rep) (8th wk). \$5,200 after \$6,000 for seventh week.

New Mechanic (1,800; 20-40) — "Wake Up, Dream" (20th). Steady \$10,000. "New Mechanic" (1,800; 20-40) (4th wk). Fine \$8,000.

Deception (WB) (2,500; 25-74) — "Deception" (WB) (2d wk). Maintaining good pace at \$11,000 after big \$18,000 opening.

Killers' Smash \$43,000, Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 10. Lifting of the dimout is giving a boost to "Killers' Smash" (WB) (10th wk). "Killers' Smash" (WB) (10th wk). \$43,000. "Killers' Smash" (WB) (10th wk). \$43,000.

Adeline (Wm.) (1,300; 50-94) — "Adeline" (Wm.) (1,300; 50-94) (10th wk). Last week, \$12,000. Over last week, high \$18,000.

Orange Woman (UA) (2d wk) — "Orange Woman" (UA) (2d wk). \$12,000. "Orange Woman" (UA) (2d wk). \$12,000.

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The Clouds Roll By Every Gay

11th 100 Despite Pre-Xmas; Lights On Ups B Way, 'Clementine' Big 42G

Pre-Christmas lull hit Broadway picture theatres with terrific impact. "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). \$110,000. "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). \$110,000.

Golden Gate (1,800; 20-40) — "Golden Gate" (1,800; 20-40) (10th wk). Last week, \$12,000. Over last week, high \$18,000.

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street, eighth round ended last night, \$110,000. "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). \$110,000. "The Clouds Roll By" (M-G) (10th wk). \$110,000.

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Deception (WB) (2,500; 25-74) — "Deception" (WB) (2d

IT'S A WONDERFUL LAUGH...

It's Jimmy's great new picture...the show that tops all the fun of "It Happened One Night"; all the heart-warming joy of "Mr. Deeds Goes To Town"; all the happiness of "You Can't Take It With You"—Capra's triple-slam Academy Award triumphs!

IT'S A WON

LIBERTY FILMS INC.
Presents

FRANK CAPRA'S
"It's a Wonderful Life"

starring JAMES STEWART
and DONNA REED

WITH LIONEL BARRYMORE • THOMAS MITCHELL • HENRY TRAVERS

and BEULAH BONDI • WARD BOND • FRANK FAYLEN • GLORIA GRAHAME

PRODUCED AND
DIRECTED BY FRANK CAPRA



Nationally Advertised
TO THE
40,703,987 CIRCULATION

Of Life—Look—Collier's—Good Housekeeping—Saturday
Evening Post—Seventeen—True Story—Woman's Home
Companion—Time—the Fan list and The American Weekly.

French Legit Picture Confused, With Govt Taxes, Politics Hampering

Paris, Nov. 28.—Paris legit presents a confusing picture. French plays, which used to be made in the former studio and local production, so far, includes the usual offerings like to open a big international market for French product.

The biggest grosses, those of the Folies-Bergere or the Chateaux "Chasseurs d'Images," a musical starring the comedienne Francey, grossed \$300,000 a week. Other musicals and dramas do half that.

Legit taxes are over 40% of gross. There is a ceiling on admission scales, which explains the commercial limitations French producers face. During the war, due to the distaste of audiences for German-inspired pictures, the stage French an unexpected amount of the amusement spending, which it has partly retained despite reopening of French cinema.

But what surplus the wartime producers had accumulated during the war years was taken over by the government, which taxes them 90% of the profit made in excess of the wartime producer's share. The stage may have a free enterprise, an official license in excess of the wartime producer's share. The government, which taxes them 90% of the profit made in excess of the wartime producer's share. The government, which taxes them 90% of the profit made in excess of the wartime producer's share. The government, which taxes them 90% of the profit made in excess of the wartime producer's share.

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an ambitious revue there earlier in the year met with very moderate success.

Type of plays produced, besides musical comedies, includes, as was to be expected, a number of plays reflecting the Underground, such as "Tenderloin" and "The Night of the Living Dead." The latter, with a lead, starring Claude Rains. But audiences are now weary of this type of thing.

There is a new play, "Paul Sartre with 'Dead Without Burial' at the Antoine. French playwrights are increasingly aware of the need of preventing audiences from switching from the stage to the screen. That these writers feel this too is evidenced by veteran Max Maury setting Marcel Pagnol to adapt his "Marius" from screen to stage.

Provincial musical theatres are reorganizing and depend mostly on subsidies. In a number of spots, the interest in show business is shown by the numerous amateur companies who regularly stage plays. Professionals look askance at this, fearing the competition.

Unique Mexican Station—No Shows; Much Ads—Gets New Facility

Mexico City, Dec. 5.—Mexican's unique station, XEQKX has been in the air for some time, but it has not yet started its regular programming. The station is owned by the Mexican government and is the only station of its kind in the country. It has a unique sound and is the only station of its kind in the country.

But, in order to catch the time, audience has been a flock of ads, a few seconds each, spiced by announcements who talk continually for the station. Those tuning in can't miss catching the ads. And many of the ads are for the station. The station is owned by the Mexican government and is the only station of its kind in the country.

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"World Markets Clamor for Good Goods"

observes

Norman B. Rydge
(Chairman of Greater Union Theatres of Australia)

an editorial feature
of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number
of

VARIETY

INTER-UNION RULING

MAY CRIMP MEX PRO.

Mexico City, Dec. 5.—Snagging of Mexican pic production, with probable hampering of U. S. picture business in Mexico, is seen in the win by the National Cinematograph Industry Workers Union in its first district court here of orders upstaging the ruling rendered last fall by ex-President Manuel Avila Camacho.

Cannaho, arbiter of the row between the National Cinematograph Industry Workers Union, had sided with latter over labor supply right for pic, ruling that STIC shall have that right for shorts only, while Production provide help for features. Court now rules that STIC may freely provide help for features, as well as shorts.

Production, composed largely of players, is miffed at the ruling and will renew war on STIC, its parent organization, by an appeal to the Supreme Court.

"Begar," Touted Swedish Pix, Sloughed by Critic

Stockholm, Dec. 2.—Swedish film "Begar" (The Beggar), which was sold to the U. S. before its release here, drew a bad press and was sloughed by critics. Film critics considered that the picture was a poor example of Swedish film. The picture was sold to the U. S. before its release here, drew a bad press and was sloughed by critics.

Paris Mulling World's Fair as Tourist Hypo

Paris, Nov. 28.—Intending to revive Paris former glimmer and hope tourist, the French government is scheduling an International World's Fair here as soon as it can be arranged. The fair would have to be in 1949 or 1953. No date is possible in between, because the 1951 date has been booked by England, and International World's Fair regulations provide for an interval of two years between successive fairs.

13 Swedish Pix in Work

Stockholm, Nov. 19.—Swedish production has swung into high gear in the last few weeks. Ingo high gear in the last few weeks. Ingo high gear in the last few weeks. Ingo high gear in the last few weeks. Ingo high gear in the last few weeks. Ingo high gear in the last few weeks.

Prater Head Gets 15 Years

Vienna, Nov. 25.—Franz Kurzbauer, who argued the Prater, Vienna's famed amusement center, after the "Anschluss" and was sentenced to 15 months in prison. He was the Nazi Prater amusement director throughout the years 1938-1945.

Winthrop's Watson to Aussie

Winthrop, Dec. 10.—Helen Watson, regional supervisor for the National Film Board in Winnipeg the past year, has been appointed to the post of regional supervisor in Australia. Working out of Sydney, she'll travel extensively throughout Australia and New Guinea on the board's behalf. She'll also serve as rep in Sydney of the National Film Board in Australia. David Woodworth replaces her here.

Argentine Film Prod. to High Gear After Union Row; New Bldg. Plans

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1.—After slow motion work in Argentina's studios for some 15 days, studio personnel, represented by the AGICA union came to a settlement with the major studios, which granted them a 10% raise in their salaries, and work is normal once more.

Some observers read signs of continuing depression in the industry from the announcements of studio construction being made by the major studios. The new studio, EFA is the latest of these and has purchased a lot in the nearby suburb of Mar del Plata, a which modern studio buildings will be erected.

Oeste Films', new production unit, which is located in the district of Chilivoy, has overcome some squabbles encountered through shortage of equipment and work on "Shadows of the Past," its first production, is being speeded up.

Argentina Sono Film is dickering for the purchase of Pampa Films studios. Dicker is hanging idle until after the annual general meeting of Pampa shareholders, which is scheduled for the new year.

AAA has announced the names of the winners of the 1947, one of which is already in the air. This is a much bigger production schedule than is usual for the Association of Artists.

An Italian company, Luxman, is planning to build a new studio in Buenos Aires, and offered Julio Moreno a contract, for one picture, to be produced in Argentina.

Vienna Click; Pianist Plans U.S. Tour in 1947

Vienna, Nov. 27.—First postwar platters by Peter Kreuder, one of Europe's top record stars, have reached music stores and sold in within hours. Kreuder, who is the owner of five disks were shipped in from Switzerland. Masters were sold in new highly prized Elite-Austrophone studio in basement of the city, then shipped to Zurich for pressing.

Kreuder, who sold over two million records in his native Austria, is planning to tour the U. S. in 1947. He is planning to tour the U. S. in 1947. He is planning to tour the U. S. in 1947. He is planning to tour the U. S. in 1947. He is planning to tour the U. S. in 1947.

Mexico Looks All Set For "Outlaw" on Hypo by UA

The "Outlaw" (UA) was presented in Mexico at swank Cine Chapultepec here by hyped exploitation engineering company, UA. The picture, grossed, more than \$100,000 (Mex) in the first week, was just the start of a series of big hits. The picture, grossed, more than \$100,000 (Mex) in the first week, was just the start of a series of big hits.

Down Mexico Way

Mexico City, Dec. 5.—Gustavo Mohome, ex-Fox mgr. in Mexico now distributor of Mexican films, is in the city, planning shopping for films. He is planning to shop for films. He is planning to shop for films. He is planning to shop for films. He is planning to shop for films.

Pho Signs Bremerholm

RKO Signs Bremerholm. Bremerholm, who has been named distributor for Gloria Films, former distributor for Gloria Films, former distributor for Gloria Films, former distributor for Gloria Films, former distributor for Gloria Films.

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British Films Withdrawn From Pix Houses in Egypt After Bomb Threat

CAIRO, Nov. 26

British pictures are no longer being shown in Egyptian theatres, decision not to exhibit them having just now been admitted as a set policy. Pix are off screens voluntarily due to threats of mobs to bomb any house showing them. Threat stems from the political situation and is without of rivalry existing between Arab and Jew in Palestine.

It's the first real instance where political activity has crippled an entire section of the motion picture industry in a whole country. Because of this anti-British campaign in Egypt, outlook for the Middle East cinema is dismal. This is in direct contrast to the satisfactory business being done by Great British screen product elsewhere.

Peculiar feature of this self-imposed ban on showing British-made in Egypt is that Palestine, from which the boycott stems, is showing British pictures without any restrictions and doing okay biz.

ROME COPS NAB FORGER ON 3 U. S. SLAY RIGHTS

Rome, Dec. 1

Rome police authorities have unearthed a nest case of forgery perpetrated to the theatre. A certain Lauretta who claimed to be an American representative of the Dramatists Play Service, had sold rights of the "Three of the Turin" (The "Three of the Turin" and "The White Father" and "Glass Menagerie") to a well-known Italian actor, Paolo Stoppa, on the strength of a contract which he had signed. He had already cashed in several hundred thousand lire advance for the sale of such rights. When the police authorities were warned of his scheme by Fabio Cohen, representative in this matter of the American Society of Authors' Representatives, Lauretta has confessed and will be charged with forgery. He forged the signatures of John Van Druten, Monica McCall, Barrett Clark and others.

All Italian newspapers gave the yarn big coverage.

Two Important American Productions Adapted for the Italian Theatre

Two important American productions adapted for the Italian theatre will soon open in Rome and Milan. The play "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams, will be presented at Rome's Teatro Eliseo Dec. 10. Segre transferred from the Morrell-Estoppa company will produce.

Shirley's "Pick-Up Girl" will be presented at the Nuovo theatre in Milan Dec. 10. The producing company is Adani-Roggeri, Lasciani and Rosanda made the translation.

The copyrights for both plays were sold for Italy by Fabio Cohen, of the American Society of Authors' Representatives.

Club des Cinq Owners Take Over Ambassadors

PARIS, Dec. 6

Operators of "Club des Cinq," a group of five war veterans headed by Maurice Blainin and Jean Leclerc, will try their hand running the Ambassadors, which Clifford L. Fischer closed in November. They are getting the place on a straight rental, with option to buy. They plan opening Dec. 20, with a new, dance and cabaret policy; switching Ethel Parr and the nine Companions de la Chanson circque of their Club des Cinq. They expect restrictions on the use of electricity to permit them to use high electricity to keep the place heated all night time.

Piat and the nine Companions have been booked by Fischer for Ambassadors and will open in February. While in Paris and for William Morris account, Fischer packed Lucienne Boyer for four weeks at Cafe Society Uptown, opening Feb. 10. Miss Boyer will sail Jan. 10.

Porgy & Bess' in Vienna

Vienna, Nov. 26

George Gershwin's opera, "Porgy and Bess" will be produced here early next year.

Will be set up at Volkspalast under Director Walter Flinter.

Reeds Query Budapest Editors on Russ Films

Budapest, Nov. 27

Local Soviet pix distribution heads have queried Budapest editors and asked for a frank opinion on the Russian pix and comment on why they haven't gone well, particularly against Hollywood. The answer is now available here since the war. Those brave enough to comment on the point on the queries headed by Krenkinites for the heavy propaganda load they always lay atop what entertainment films they wanted by students. American offices have increasingly large staff and plan big drive to increase Russian celluloide popularity in Hungary.

Bleak Picture Seen On Dutch Home Expansion; Film Production Slow

Amsterdam, Nov. 26

There is small hope for theatre expansion in Holland for some time because of the war which has disrupted the industry. Only new theatre change was opening of the Kriterium theatre, built by students. American offices have increasingly large staff and plan big drive to increase Russian celluloide popularity in Hungary.

Dutch film production continues unimportant now mainly because facilities are so bad. The Nieuw Studio near the Hague was razed by the heavy bombardment of the war while Cine Studio near here was looted by the Germans in 1944 when they left all was lost.

Plans for several studios to turn out features in improved studios have been unsuccessful. Even production of Dutch films has been viewed as so much wasted government money.

FINNISH FILM CRITICS GIVE OUT JUSSI OSCARS

Helsinki, Dec. 4

Finnish films for the past year have been of such quality that no awards for the best picture or director have been made in recent years. The Jussi Oscar, given out by the Finnish Film Critics Assn. Oscars, known here as "Jussi," are given out for best directing performances and tending, save for one short subject award.

Best actress was Regina Linnanaho for her work in "Ornith Bird" ("Restless Blood"); best actor, Tarmo Pato for "Menninkäinen Varjo" ("Shadow from the Past"); best second female actress, Riitta Rensola for "Paimen Ait Hirtat" ("Boy-finger for Hire"); best second actor, Lasse Pyyti for his work in the Olli Suuronen picture, "Kokki" ("The Chef"). Best male lead, Jussi Uusikallio for "En Ole Kiveltä" ("Countess for a Night") while Laila Kinnunen drew an Oscar for her short. "The Ways Around Rovaniemi."

French Set Up Equipment Pix Co. in Baden-Baden

The French are making use of German know-how to manufacture picture equipment in the French zone of occupied Germany. They are planning to set up a company, International Film Allianz Technik, with Germany holding a minority interest. Work will be done in the area of projection room sundries, the works are also turning out precision instruments for the war. The production of 80 mikes and 2,400 photo electric cells.

MOSS BOTH-FOX EIRE MGR.

Dublin, Dec. 3

Maurice Moss has been appointed Dublin manager for 20th-Fox, succeeding Leslie Talbot, who is moving to the Regatta's London headquarters.

J. F. Patterson, director of sales, will be the party to introduce him to Irish exhibitors and to honor the visit of Otto W. Belle, managing director, to Dublin.

Herbert Smith Head of Keith-Prowse & Co. (Largest ticket agents in London) observes "London Legit B.O. Again Sets Record for 1946"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

North Africa Facing Big Product Shortage Due to U.S.-French Pact

A serious shortage of screen product is developing in North Africa according to word received by N. Y. homefides. This shortage stems from the U. S.-French pact which sets quarterly quotas and is applicable to North Africa as well as Europe. The pact limits French pictures a certain amount of screen playing time, thereby limiting the number of U. S. films available to North African exhibitors.

North Africa's working out as a hardship to exhibitors who are dependent on more American serials, westerns and action pictures, that would be under the pact. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of Tuschinski theatre recently recalled the theatre recently named after the Russian, Abram Tuschinski, who with his two brothers died during the Nazi terror regime in Poland.

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Beef That Border Towns Cop Mex. Tourists Coin

Mexico City, Dec. 5

Biggest U. S. tourist big for Mexico doesn't come here, but is largely border trade according to the Confederation of Chambers of Commerce. Tourists coming here a few hours to a few days in Mexico, are good for \$45,000,000 a year, of which Tijuana, Mexico, and Ensenada, on the California line, cop \$16,000,000. Confederation estimates their border at 60% of all U. S. visitors to Mexico and thinks it would be better to induce them to come here and to other towns that are a day or two from the border.

Best actress was Regina Linnanaho for her work in "Ornith Bird" ("Restless Blood"); best actor, Tarmo Pato for "Menninkäinen Varjo" ("Shadow from the Past"); best second female actress, Riitta Rensola for "Paimen Ait Hirtat" ("Boy-finger for Hire"); best second actor, Lasse Pyyti for his work in the Olli Suuronen picture, "Kokki" ("The Chef"). Best male lead, Jussi Uusikallio for "En Ole Kiveltä" ("Countess for a Night") while Laila Kinnunen drew an Oscar for her short. "The Ways Around Rovaniemi."

Sweden OK for 'Gilda,' 'Years'

Stockholm, Nov. 28

Latest U. S. films to arrive here are Columbia's "Gilda" and Metro's "The Green Years." Both were cleared by the Swedish censors. "Gilda" premiered at the Royal, owned by the Sandrew interests, during "Years" debuted at the Biggto.

Current London Shows

London, Dec. 5

"And No Birds Sing" Aldwych. "Clutterbuck" Wyndham. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Follow the Girls" Majestic. "Fools Rush In" Fortune. "Gilda" Gaiety. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Grand National Night" Apollo. "Guinea Pig" Criterion. "Hush" Gaiety. "The Boys" Saville. "High Noon" Palladium. "Honey Moon" York. "Under the Sea" Savoy. "Message for Margaret" Duchess. "Night and Day" Coliseum. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Our Betters" Playhouse. "Perchance to Dream" Hipp. "Under the Sea" Savoy. "Pick-Up Girl" Gaiety. "Follies" Vaudeville. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Skin of My Teeth" St. Martins. "Shin of Teeth" Piccadilly. "Sage of the Sea" Palace. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Sweetest and Lowest" Ambassadors. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Under the Sea" Savoy. "Pick-Up Girl" Gaiety. "Follies" Vaudeville. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Skin of My Teeth" St. Martins. "Shin of Teeth" Piccadilly. "Sage of the Sea" Palace. "The Green Years" Wyndham. "Sweetest and Lowest" Ambassadors. 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FACT:



CENTURY-FOX

today more than ever is

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY!

IT'S A FACT:

No other company ever had so many pictures breaking so many records in so many theatres!

"THE

The world's champion grosser! 1st week where in the world! 2nd week tops the



"MA

Every boxoffice is
Record highs, record



"ANNA "CENTE

RAZOR'S EDGE

at the Roxy new all-time record for any picture, any theatre, any first! New records every day, every week!



RLING CLEMENTINE

new all-time 20th Century-Fox records at the long-run Rivoli Theatre, N. Y. after setting new all-time highs in hundreds of dates from coast to coast!

RGIE in *Technicolor*
singing "I'll Tell The World I Love Her!"
runs EVERYWHERE!

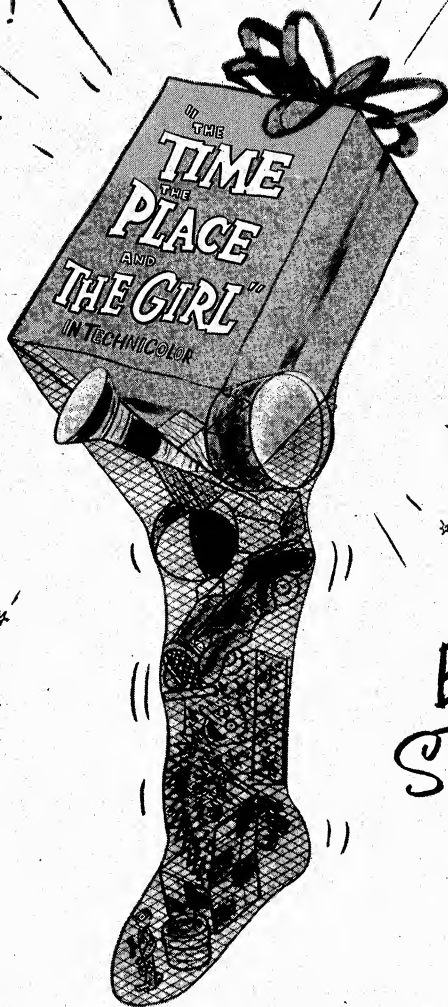


3 Little Girls in Blue

 in *Technicolor*

Motion Picture Herald acclaims it October Boxoffice Champion!

"SMOKY" in *Technicolor*
AND THE KING OF SIAM
NNIAL SUMMER" in *Technicolor*



A
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FOR
EVERY
STOCKING!!



WARNER'S HIT A BRAND NEW NOTE IN MUSICALS!

DENNIS MORGAN ★ **JACK CARSON** ★ **JANIS PAIGE** ★ **MARTHA VICKERS**

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PRODUCED BY
ALEX GOTTLIEB

♫ THEY'RE ON THE AIR EVERYWHERE! — A GAL IN CALICO ♪ OH, BUT I DO ♪
THROUGH A THOUSAND DREAMS ♪ A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO ♪ A SOLID CITIZEN OF THE SOLID SOUTH ♪ I HAPPENED TO WALK DOWN FIRST STREET



**GRAB
"THE
BEAST
WITH
FIVE
FINGERS!"**

BROADWAY CAUGHT IT QUICK... WARNERS' WORLD PREMIERE XMAS DAY AT THE VICTORIA!

A TAIL OF TWO CITIES!



LOS ANGELES, CAL.

THE YEAR'S PRIZE PICTURE
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR
MASTERPIECE

"THE YEARLING"
WORLD PREMIERE DEC. 25th
CARTHY CIRCLE THEATRE
TWICE DAILY
ALL SEATS RESERVED

NEW YORK, N. Y.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
STARTS ITS BIG CHRISTMAS
NEW YEARS CLEAN-UP WITH
THE BIGGEST ATTRACTION
OF THEM ALL! M-G-M's
TECHNICOLOR

**"TILL THE CLOUDS
ROLL BY"**
(to be followed by "THE YEARLING")

← **EXTRA!**

Biggest business
of any M-G-M
picture in Music
Hall history!

Inside Stuff—Pictures

Latest to add his voice to the clamor raised by legit spokesmen against the alleged inroads made on Broadway by Hollywood is legit producer Max Gordon. In a bylined piece in last Sunday's (8) N. Y. Times, Gordon attributed what he termed the "stealy decline in the theatre" to the "insidious" fact that the movies and the radio have robbed the theatre of all its talents, either for full time or part time, and the legitimate theatre can never really be successful on a part time basis.

Regarding the current lack of fresh writing talent, Gordon claimed the stage offered a tiny throw no guarantee that his first play would be successful and if the show fails, the author leaves no trace in the theatre. "Inherently, however," he said, "in his first play there is usually some good writing that makes him an easy target for the Hollywood agent to sell him down the river in the picture company."

Only hope held out by Gordon was that pictures will some day be produced in New York. "I think when that happens," he declared, "the authors will be in a position to afford the theatre, and the actors will welcome a chance to improve their talents as actors."

Spotlighting the current move to increased exploitation by all the majors, RKO opened its bally campaign on "Sinbad the Sailor" last week with a trailer from executive vicepresident Ned DePinto to more than 12,000 women clubs, schoolteachers, and librarians throughout the country. Letter was sent with a folder showing comic-strip ads being run in 12 newspapers for a special price to mop up trade.

In the folder, DePinto asks the teachers, et al., to "be among the first to see it in your community," and recommended it to all who follow your guidance in selecting their screen entertainment. In their written spiel, RKO's letter emphasizes film's draw on "entire family" and implies a request for fact approval of the advertising. Campaign expert underlines the trend to "broad promotion, and especially to teacher influence on the mop up films."

Ingrid Bergman gets 18% straight from "Joan of Lorraine," which she'll do for The Playwrights Co. on Broadway until May 7, when she is due to return for a Walter Wanger film chore, "The Ballad and the Source." Show nets around \$7,000 weekly and cost a little over \$50,000 to produce so it will be a healthy profit-maker in short order. Idea is to revive it periodically in Chi, the Coast, etc., wherever Miss Bergman finds a few weeks of publicity, and thus do the Maxwell Anderson play as a regular repertory piece.

RKO-Pathe is reading special hype for its December issue of "This America," first motion picture campaign on positive Germany, which is expected to raise a mild storm when it goes into general release. Reason for the expected hubbub is the fact that film, called "Germany Today," doesn't give an entirely complimentary picture of the progress Germany has made toward recovery under the current four-power policy.

A partial list of our REFRESHMENT CONCESSIONS

Football Stadium

MICHIGAN STADIUM
Detroit, Mich.

HARVARD STADIUM
Cambridge, Mass.

PITT STADIUM
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOW SPECIALIZING IN REFRESHMENT SERVICE FOR DRIVE-IN THEATRES

SPORTSERVICE, Inc.
HURST, WISCONSIN

Rank's Packages

Continued from page 3

emanating from Hollywood, unit will canvass community concert groups who rep for the more artistically pretentious stratum of Main Street. Offer will be for block of six films, spaced out over a season, providing organizations can guarantee minimum number of subscriptions.

Unit figures Warner's clubs and charity groups are a natural for the plan. Convention has been considerably strengthened by fact upper crust Junior League has already hooked on to plan and is forwarding letters to 150 chapters proposing support as means of raising charity funds. Prestige will charge either flat rental or percentage based on number of seats, playing time and size of town.

Possibility of exhib squeals over new-type distribution which cuts them out is discounted both by Prestige and Universal, parent company.

KILROY WASN'T HERE!

... But look who WAS!

THE Voice: he sings our praises...

THE G-Man: he didn't need a magnifying glass to detect Leftcourt's superior show styling...

THE leader of Cafe Society's wolf pack: he dances through life in Leftcourt's Shoes.

Men who realize that a man's appearance is built from the ground up... that's who was here.

And Leftcourt must have something that makes them come back again and again and again!

Leftcourt

400 MADISON AVENUE, N. Y.

Would Cut 'Years'

Almost everybody concerned with "Best Years of Our Lives" including director Willie Wyler, premix Tim Mulvey of Goldwyn and the studio, are willing to cut 30 minutes of the picture, which runs 2 1/2 hours, as a means to secure a greater audience.

Samuel Goldwyn alone is adamant on retaining the entire footage.

Goldwyn's Boston Test Of 'Years' Twice-Daily

Decision of Samuel Goldwyn to experiment with a roadshow policy for "Best Years of Our Lives" in Boston resulted from the large number of inquiries being received at the Astor, N. Y., regarding availability of reserved seats for the picture. If the Boston experiment works out, "Best Years" will go into as many more cities as it has been able to book on a two-day reserved seat policy.

Length of the picture—almost three hours—is behind the call for reserved seats, since the picture has been so popular that the Astor has been obliged to business in patrons being turned away, while others get in by waiting, which Goldwyn feels causes them to be less receptive to the picture.

Reserved seats to the \$2.40 being charged Saturday nights and Sundays at the Astor, with \$1.80 top during the week, have engaged the Equizer will have an estimated \$1.80 afternoons and \$2.40 evenings all week. House has only 900 seats and at this season can do about \$21,000.

Opening at the Equizer is slated for around Christmas. "Best Years" (UA) just completed a 36-week run at the house, also at the \$2.40 top. Goldwyn is taking the picture to the same four-walls basis on which United Artists had it, operating it on the same all costs.

Meantime, in accordance with terms of a previous contract, "Years" (MGM) is taking the picture to a grand basis with a \$1.80 top. This will also apply to the Beverly on which it will open principally for the purpose of getting into the Academy Award competition.

Another factor which influenced Goldwyn on the reserved seat experiment is that the Music Hall, N. Y., is now more solidly sold out than at any time in its history in the \$2.40 reserved loge locations.

Wyler Sees War

Continued from page 3

foster a public demand for films on the subject.

Wyler admitted that his experiences during the past years when he served actively overseas as combat and film historian for the War Dept. has made it impossible for him to ever make a picture again unless it had some bearing on the problems of the vet. "There has been some confusion over the length of 'Best Years,'" he said, "but there really is no end to the story. I could have made the picture last August. I could start a new one where this left off, and go on with three other veterans. The events of the last few years have been the most important in centuries."

"Others on the Coast feel as I do," Wyler continued. "These men who won't forget the past few years are determined to test war, its causes and results in film. And many are in a position to do so."

Wyler's AVC citation was tendered for "directional genius predicated on honest perspective and consummately developed technical skill in depicting the veteran of World War I." His wartime pic, "Memphis Belle," has been rated one of the tops in Army films.

Names at AMPA Lunch

Picture stars on the dais at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers annual Christmas luncheon Friday (13) at Town Hall Club, N. Y., will include Maureen O'Hara, Charles Laughton, Mirene Serrano and Martha Scott.

Stanwyck's 2d for Ent

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Barbara Stanwyck has been set as star in the second production, "Enterprising," Technicolor film titled "Cattle Kate." Wolfgang Reinhardt will produce the picture.

St. Paul Orpheum Goes to RKO For \$826,000; Other Xchange, Film Briefs

Minneapolis. RKO Theatres through a subsidiary, St. Paul Theatres, has purchased the 2,336-seat RKO-Orpheum in St. Paul from that city. Company has had it under lease, operating house on a film and occasional stage show policy built 29 years ago. Municipally took bids on property valued at \$1,000,000. Large hotel and stores, the RKO Theatre bid \$825,000, submitted by A. W. Dawson. Theatres vice-president, N. Y., being high.

The present operation of the theatre will continue, with the house completely modernized as soon as materials are available. It was announced by John D. Redmond, RKO Theatre district manager here. City of St. Paul came into possession of property because owner of the land on which the theatre was built and because deal called for Orpheum circuit, which built the showhouse to turn building over to municipally after 25 years.

Gillespie Moved to Dallas

Dallas. James B. Gillespie of the Atlanta exchange transferred here as exploitation chief for this territory for the 20th-Fox. He succeeds Richard Owens who resigned after six years. Rodney Bush, exploitation chief from the home office, is here to help resign setup.

MacKee's Theatre Deal

Lease-purchase contracts for 20 theatres have been made by MacKee Theatres with indie exhibitors in the mid-Atlantic seaboard area. House will run from 550 seats to 1,000 and will include airconditioning equipment. Company, newly formed, plans construction of 350-seaters in small communities and 600-car drive-ins for operation by indies.

Ind. Exch.-Fidler Feud

Indianapolis, Dec. 10. The long-distance feud between Jimmy Fidler and Associated Theater Owners of Indiana continued this week when Fidler, of Indianapolis, head of latter, proposed by letter that Fidler set up reviewing groups in each exchange territory to give him a cross-section of public opinion on the quality of rating picture. The letter was in reply to Fidler's broadcast of Dec. 1 in which he seemed to take a personal ATOI resolution censuring newspaper columnist and radio commentators who spread publicity harmful to the picture industry.

"Particularly do we object to your rating of pictures," Rembusch wrote. "For this rating reflects your own city taste and in no way reflects a true cross section of the tastes by

theatre-going public. Many pictures that you endorse are unacceptable to our theatre patrons. Your endorsement encourages producers to continue making this type of picture. On the other hand, pictures that are pleasing to our public are often spoken of by you in a derogatory manner. In the final analysis the persons influenced by your rating of pictures are the public to whom your remarks are addressed by the producers."

Lery Vice Ranney

Herman F. Lery has been tapped for advertising manager post for Universal-International studios. Lery, for the past two years acted as advertising manager at U's studios, replaced him by Ramon who stepped out to head the Coast office of the Moore-Gretnall Advertising Agency.

Lery was formerly associated with RKO Theatres in the middle west.

M. J. Weisfeld Named Special Sales Rep.

M. J. Weisfeld named special sales rep for Eagle-Lion in metropolitan New York, starting pronto. New E-L exec was with Columbia for past 10 years in a exclusive sales capacity.

O'Gara Aldes Rep Expires

James V. O'Gara has been appointed executive assistant to James R. Granger, Republic executive vice president and general sales manager, and to Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager. O'Gara was formerly supervisor of Rep's South American branches with offices in Buenos Aires.

John P. Curran will continue as assistant to both Granger and Walton.

Pitt Managers to Eagle-Lion

Wilton Watters, manager of 20th-Fox exchange in Albany, appointed head of local office, succeeding Herman Biersdorf, who resigned to become district sales chief for Eagle-Lion for Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. Other Pitt exchange men to go with E-L are Joe Minsky, once with Warners here and Bill Sharritt, UA head recently in Cleveland but formerly here.

Filmlocks

NEW PREVUE

TRAILER SERVICE

Send the film you want to see and we will send you a trailer. No charge. Please specify film and trailer.

FILMLOCK

There's only one Lord Tarleton

Within its blockfront of ocean privacy—40th to 41st Streets—Swimming Pool • Sun Club • Cabanas.

Lord Tarleton

MIAMI BEACH

Jack Parker, Manager

Reservations Invited — Walter Jacobs

"Summertime," Lake Tarleton Club, Pike, New Hampshire

AFRA Wins 20% Pay Hike Cross Board, Sound Effects Men Perturbed on Deal

Having successfully bridged the "unfair trial" issue, the American Federation of Radio Artists, after two and a half months of negotiations for new codes to replace those which expired October 31, has effected a mild compromise on pay scales, in which, on the whole, members of AFRA get a 20% increase. The board on commercial shows, sustainers, and transcriptions—will certain extra bonuses in some cases. Other negotiation highlights:

A defeat as far as AFRA's plans to pull out extra benefits are concerned, including the differences among regions as well as the differences between commercial and sustaining pay.

A sock in the nose as far as AFRA's insistence on raising pay for sound effects men. This last defeat is so serious that it may even result in sound effects men walking out on AFRA and possibly joining one or more other unions.

The sound effects men are the lowest paid, on the whole, among AFRA members. There are about 75 to 80 sound effects men in the three major production centers—New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

After much arguing among the AFRA and the national negotiators, AFRA has offered to allow for the sound effects people: A 20% pay increase for all; plus a 5% bonus for extra work. The regional board in New York and Chicago, and a 10% bonus to the group in Los Angeles. The deal is not as good as what AFRA wanted, but it is a step in the right direction.

Meeting Into the Night

National board members of AFRA were in session in New York most of the night Monday, December 9. The meeting ended at 2:30 a.m. and those in Chicago and Los Angeles arrived for their meetings in the national board will meet again during this week, and the final terms of the deal were agreed upon.

On the "unfair trial" issue, AFRA is given the opportunity to cancel contracts with all four simultaneously beginning Nov. 1, 1947. The union can cancel contracts on only 10 days' notice, and can require the codes on a single day's notice. It's during the cancellation interim that an "unfair trial" issue is being negotiated. The union would feed out through AFRA action against a single show or a little network.

The year's "grace" before that clause becomes operative includes efforts to educate radio stations into acceptance of AFRA as the collective bargaining agent. The "educational committee" will be composed of 16 members, including four representing AFRA nationally, four from the major networks, four from the National Association of Broadcasters, which, presumably, would draw its representation from smaller stations around the country.

Platter-Net Snags Kelly, Modernaires Longterm

The Modernaires and Paula Kelly have linked a long-term pact with Long-Worth Feature Programs, Inc., through the transcription firm's "platter-net" of 400 radio stations throughout the U. S. and Canada.

The deal was negotiated by Howard Stinson of General Artists and C. O. Langlois, proxy of Long-Worth.

The first disks of the Modernaires were completed yesterday (Tuesday) in Columbia studio, N. Y. Agreement provides for a minimum of 10 to 15 new records a year. Fran Scott is writing the vocal arrangements while Bill Slegemeyer will handle the musical choices.

Coincidence?

(1) Kenney & Eckhardt is getting ready to put on its first dramatic series in some time—a five times weekly "Hollywood Story" for Kellogg.

(2) Don Severi, K&E talent buyer, sent a memo down to the network executives this week requesting a new couch for his office.

(3) See 1 and 2.

Tooters' Pay Hike May Spell 'Disfranchisement' Doom

Source close to the transcription business is of the opinion that James C. Petrolis' victory in winning a 20% pay hike for musicians on platter shows may wind up with all but four or five of the top companies going up the ladder.

Last year the transcription companies paid a total of \$1,500,000 to musicians, which means the new bill will cost them an additional \$750,000 in the coming year. While such outlay is a big deal, it will be decided in Long-Worth, etc., could take it in stride, it's contended. There are other companies that are the going too tough in trying to pass on the added hike to clients.

With the new bill and transcribed shows locally around the country, the chief selling point to department stores, etc., has been the low cost per show. But start hiking those figures, it's argued, and Fidelity's "Five-and-a-half" will decide they can get in cheaper with a live program.

Nixing of Women's Poll Cues Discontinuance Of Other Such Checks

The Women's National Radio Committee, headed by Yolande Merriam, which is comprised of 25 organizations, including the United Council of Church Women with its 17,000,000 membership, has announced the discontinuance of its annual radio poll.

The withdrawal is viewed as significant from the standpoint that there is a widening recognition that the industry has become over-saturated with polls and the bowwow of the women's organization is seen in some quarters as only the first of several such moves in coming months.

Chief criticism of the program polls among industry execs is that they're all the same. As one of them put it: "This year they'll all come one name, Henry Morgan. Then they'll go into the same routine."

CBS WAXES BERG SHOW

"Goldbergs" Back in Half-Hour Version With New Cast

CBS last week made a recording of a new half-hour version of the old Gertrude Berg series, "Rise of the Goldbergs." The new series, which has traditional writer-leading lady-director roles, Jack Meehan acted as co-director for CBS. CBS house orchestra was used and cast included Louis Ross as Jake.

Bernard Schubert negotiated the deal for Miss Berg.

"Radio's Biggest Sales Job Is Selling the United Nations"

By Christopher Cross

who tells the saga of selling UN

on editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

KLZ's KILOCYCLE CONTROLLER HARVEY WEHRMAN

Now completing his 11th year as KLZ's chief engineer, characterizes both AM and FM transmitters and holds one of the best operational records in the industry.

KLZ, DENVER

Cresta Prefers To Defy Crosby

Cresta Bianchi apparently regarding Bing Crosby's platter show for Philco as less stiff opposition than the beginning of the new CBS Cresta producers, Schenley, have served notice to CBS that they're not going to take it.

No Hope, No Formula

With Cresta Bianchi moving over from Tuesday to Wednesday, CBS is right back where it was before the beginning of the new Bing Crosby platter show. It's again a 60-minute sustaining operation. Despite the fact that the brace of NBC comedy shows has slipped from 1-2 position to 3-4 in the Hooperatings, they're still pretty tough in the eyes of CBS executives.

Hope hovered had the anti-Hope hopes in Arthur Godfrey, now in the 10 to 10:30 p.m. slot, but the CBS execs and he's kicking up a 3.1 rating as compared with Hope's 27.4. All told CBS has played around with 13 shows in the half-hour slot since the advent of Hope. Nothing's happened.

scrambling out of the Tuesday 9:30 (opposite Fibber) spot and are moving into the Wednesday at 10 (opposite Crosby) segment with its "Hollywood Story" show.

Later period is being vacated by Squibb and its "Academy Award Theatre" show. Dec. 18, with Schenley taking over the 23rd. Cresta Bianchi has held down the spot for several years with a variety of programming formulae.

Si Mann's WJAS Ouster Kicks Up Pitt. Fuss As AFRA Launches Probe

Pittsburgh, Dec. 10.

Dismissal of Si Mann, head announcer of WJAS, last week, has kicked up quite a fuss locally and following an appearance of Mann before the CBS outboard here, a regular meeting, local chapter of radio performers' union has appointed a committee to investigate.

According to Mann, he was beaten up by a couple of engineers at station directly Reynolds for a series of 10-15-min. platters which he completed in the course of the Cincinnati engagement.

While at the Mayfair, Chi, last month, the comedian was booked directly by Reynolds for a series of 10-15-min. platters which he completed in the course of the Cincinnati engagement.

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Disk Tag Over Minute Stays Put As Nets, AFM Win Point at FCC

Among the 400

Mutual will taking a ride in its 400-odd affiliates. Cracked Tim Sauter at last Tuesday, N. Y. Radio Exchange Club luncheon, after Bob Swezey had introduced many Mutual affiliates.

Between the (Swezey sat down and I got up, Mutual signed up another sound track.

Writers Guild Sets Contract For Freelancers

A four-point minimum basic contract for freelance and contract writers has been laid down by the national council of the Radio Writers Guild and was projected before the eastern region membership at a meeting last night (Tuesday) in N. Y.

The Guild is ready now to negotiate the basic agreement with the four major networks on behalf of freelance writers of sustainers. A plan for pushing the negotiations in regard to commercial shows is being worked out by the outfit's national strategy committee.

The four points include: Lease, not sale, of shows; the Guild show, which means in case freelance shows that the producer chooses his own writer, but the script must be a member of RWG. Plans for publishing the negotiations in regard to commercial shows is being worked out by the outfit's national strategy committee.

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Transcriptions of one minute or less duration—including the entire gamut of plattered commercials—no longer need to be labeled as transcription. FCC, Nov. 25, through Friday (6). This is, however, the only relaxation of the Government's present requirements on identification of platter shows.

FCC's ruling on the disks followed closely recommendations of NAB at oral arguments Nov. 25, though the FCC's decision is more than 30 minutes to be identified only once—either at start or finish.

FCC's present rule has been continued in effect, requires labeling at the beginning of all platters over one minute and under five, and identification at both start and finish of all shows of over five minutes.

Generally, the commission's decision is looked upon as a victory for the networks and the American Federation of Musicians, both of which have been fighting the FCC's proposed new whole breakdown of the present rules. (ABC has asked for a new rule, but it is not known if electrical transcriptions will be only for broadcast—obviously a case of clearing the ways for Bing Crosby's wax series.)

FCC spokesmen were plainly disappointed after altering the present rule by a vote of 4-3. The FCC's decision is looked upon as a victory for the networks and the American Federation of Musicians, both of which have been fighting the FCC's proposed new whole breakdown of the present rules. (ABC has asked for a new rule, but it is not known if electrical transcriptions will be only for broadcast—obviously a case of clearing the ways for Bing Crosby's wax series.)

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WE'VE REACHED THE COLLAPSE

'O & O I Love You'

Theme song of the major networks as accompaniment for the year-end financial statements will probably be: "Thank God for our owned-and-operated stations." For it's not exactly a secret that, with operating costs reaching new highs during 1946, CBS, NBC and ABC won't make this year on their income from the network operations as such. Particularly in the case of CBS, whose gross time sales for '46 will drop a 7½ dnt in comparison with its '45 billings, it's considered likely in some quarters that the network operation might be lucky to pull up into the black columns of the 10-o statement, if it doesn't see red.

True, the networks agree that the figures on gross time sales don't truly reflect the financial condition of the webs when it comes to adding up the net profits. CBS further argues that the year-end financial statement will show a healthy net over last year. But it's also conceded by the network that the statement is based on the overall CBS operation, which takes in Columbia Records, which will wind up as a lucrative '46 operation, and the 9 o & stations, from which it reported will come 35% of the CBS income for the year.

Similarly NBC (whose strong arm is RCA) and ABC look to their 9 o & stations and other vested interests to put them in the big profit margins. Mutual, of course, is a non-profit organization whose well-heeled directors (WOR, WGN, Don Lee, etc. bosses) pour coin into the web operation.

Don't be surprised, is the thinking in authoritative quarters, if the networks, as a result, start trimming their salaries in the near future and inaugurate some drastic economies in order to stand on their own financially. At CBS, for example, there's long been the feeling among the in-house network brass that the web has been considerably over-stuffed. Also there's some question as to whether the network will pour the same amount of coin into programming as it did last year. The sudden dropping of the morning cross-the-board half-hour "Joe Powers" sustainer because it was considered too costly an item is seen as the tipoff that economy will be the watchword henceforth on programming.

Reprising Old Bible Scripts Cuts Out Author Fees on 'Light of the World'

Considerable discussion has developed in New York City under circumstances about the situation of the revived daytime serial "Light of the World" based upon the Old Testament and sponsored by General Mills.

As revived, the serial is beginning again with Adam and Eve and Genesis. This means that there are six years of old scripts on hand. The show will thus have no literary expenses, the sponsor repeating scripts sold outright by Katherine and Ede Seymour, sisters, who handled the show which was produced and sold by Transamerican in the first instance.

Radio writers have taken a dim view of this development but apparently there's nothing to be done. It's pretty likely to be brought up as a "horrible example" in Radio Writers Guild negotiations here after.

Meantime General Mills has effected another economy in connection with "Light of the World." No longer is there a paid board of clergyman-consultants. Since the clerics have already okayed the scripts being repeated, such "endorsement" was considered superfluous.

GE to Drop 700G 'Party on CBS'

General Electric is dropping sponsorship of the three-times-a-week Art Linkletter "Howdy Party" afternoon program on CBS, which adds up to an additional \$700,000 dent in savings for the network. GE, which is also reported pulling in the reins on periodicals, etc., because of the high production rate, cancels out of "Howdy Party" on Jan. 1. Bank-rollers had previously sponsored the show across-the-board, at which time the billing totaled \$1,450,000, but cut down to the present three-weekly sponsorship about 26 weeks ago.

There's a possibility, however, that Procter and Gamble may grab the 4:30 spot. P&G is pulling out of broadcast participation in Mutual's "Queen for a Day," and may transfer its billings to CBS.

Armageddon!

New York pressagent aware he had the following nightmare: "Harriet Van Horne and John Crosby got married and started a Mr. and Mrs. Radio Columbia."

Benny to Air Two Shows from Hawaii in May

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Jack Benny will take his entire troupe to Honolulu late in May for the last two broadcasts of his current Luckies series. Believed to be the first time that an entire commercial show crossed the ocean to do a regular broadcast. Back in 1937 Tony Stanford produced the Rudy Vallee show in London for broadcast here but he and Vallee were the only ones from the U.S.

After the season ending, closing out the season, Benny's wife, Mary Livingstone, will remain on the island for a few weeks vacation. Band will be taken along with the cast, with possible exception of Dennis Day and Phil Harris due to them having their own show. Benny's holiday broadcasts will come from service hospitals in this area.

THOSE '47 CRISES GET EVEN MORE

Some of the network officials are making no bones over their present-day pessimism, forecasting a recession of 1947 crises in the wake of an economic faltering, mounting costs and labor problems.

Last week they were slitting throats with fingers crossed, hoping that an early solution of the cost strike would stave off a wave of cancellations which, they knew, would inevitably follow as industrial clients affected by the fuel lack would feel the full impact of production stoppage, unemployment, etc. Now that a temporary truce has been effected, they're relieved that at least one obstacle has been hurdled.

For once time starts opening up the problem of refilling the slots may not be quite the simple thing it has been in the past. There's a little item known as transcriptions, they say, which in 1947, with the advent of the Bing Crosby-Paul Robeson payoff behind it, may grow to the stature of an ogre. They're not saying it out loud, but they anticipate that the era of the big time transcription show is around the corner, and they know full well that once time starts opening up, the disk show entrepreneurs will pounce on the networks to wrap up the sponsorship deals for their major platter productions.

NBC and CBS haven't had that to contend with in the past; they know what a real threat it is today in keeping the network strung together, and that's why they've been fighting the transcription bugaboo tooth and nail. It's why they put up such a fight at the recent FCC hearing in Washington on relaxing the transcription ban, and why CBS and NBC say they'll never yield in the issue.

But the network headaches are more manifold. Now that they've hurdled the AFRA situation—leaving it to take a full year to settle—they're plenty worried over the forthcoming James C. Phillips demands when contract time rolls around in a month or so. Just what these demands will be nobody but Phillips knows, and he isn't talking. The network chiefs are re-organizing their fighting tops, for they expect that Phillips will have won out with the Government on the Lee Act, which will lay it off to the courts. Couple that with all the other economic clitches, the overall wage hikes. CBS says it adds up to 25½% for that network's, the NABET boats, AFRA, the 50% transcription hike, etc., and you'll excuse us, say the webs, if we have a persecution complex.

And the networks are aware that the magicians are playing a cat-and-mouse game with them. The mags, too, have suffered, as reflected in the huge jump in negotiating fees. They're waiting to see if the webs make any move toward initiating an advertising cost-cutting boom. If so, they're prepared to go to town and invite a wholesale exodus of clients out of radio into the mags.

CBS Unhappy Over Flagship Yen To Stray From Mother Web Apron Strings

Culture's Bracket Nixed

ABC's plan to turn Tuesday evening from 8 to 10 over to serious-minded listeners by the bracketing of the Boston Symphony Orchestra with "Town Meeting of the Air" has run into a two-way snafu. Now the whole thing's off.

ABC had planned to keep the Boston symphony in its present 9:30-10:30 period and move "Town Meeting" from Thursday night into the Tuesday night 8:30-9:30 time. The symphony's new sponsor, the demanding better times George V. Denny, moderator of "Town Meeting," who has a new contract coming up with the web, reportedly chined in with a "we're doing-very-well-thank-you" remark, and stays put on Thursdays.

ABC still thinks it's a good idea.

Boston Symp Gets Its John Hancock Minus Molly, Hope

Deal for John Hancock Insurance Co. to take over sponsorship of the Boston Symphony Orchestra on ABC was inked last week, but the bankroller served notice on the network that it would only put its John Hancock to the contract if the program was moved out of its present Tuesday night 9:30 to 10:30 slot. Insurance office, which bought the program on a 26-week basis, figured it wasn't worth the \$500,000 investment if it had to compete with two opposition shows on NBC—Fibber & Molly and Bob Hope.

Instead, the Boston symph will move up an hour, from 8:30 to 9:30, replacing current sustainer. Long hair show less of under commercial auspices Jan. 21. It was last bankrolled by Allis Chalmers on Saturday nights but returned this season as a sustainer.

AAC, 'Star Time' Switches

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Two network shows from the Coast are changing producers. Nat Wolff is turning back production of the Abbott and Costello show to Don Bernard, Coast head of the William Ray agency. Jack Johnston resigns Bob Reed as director of Fridaigard's "Hollywood Star Time." Johnston also produces "Life of Riley" and "Blondie" and Reed doubled over for the Jack Haley show, which he'll direct. Johnston formerly produced "Man Called X."

For some time now there's been a growing tendency on the part of the network brass to get out in New York to divorce themselves from the web operations. The networks have been a good help about it. They recognize all too well that you can't sell your out-of-town affiliates a lot of goods if your key station isn't playing ball.

In one single stroke last week WCBS probably took the most outrageous step thus far of any of the major web key stations toward an autonomous swing. When it got wind that CBS was dropping its cross-the-board "Joe Powers" half-hour show, effective this Friday 131, the network's flagship grabbed off the "Powers" 10 to 10:30 a.m. segment and notified web officials that it was going to develop its own show, with its own production staff, etc., for the spot. CBS didn't let it wrap up a sponsor.

CBS isn't like the idea and really sold out of its own radio station manager. But Hayes, fortified with rating and sales figures on what had been a dud show, went on other morning programming, stood his ground—and won out. That pushed WCBS into a late morning period on local programming—heretofore unheard of—and the network will be on the air from 5 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. segment (with the exception of the World News 8-9 a.m. network co-op strip) to do with as it pleases.

And on top of it, WCBS in the next couple of weeks practically moves into its own quarters, taking over the entire ninth floor at 485 Madison ave. for its own studios, offices, etc.

Further reflecting the thinking in terms of economy among the networks is WNBC's almost exclusive plugging of its own—rather than network—shows during station breaks (see separate story).

As replacement for "Joe Powers," the new show is the John Reed "King Give and Take" show into the 10-11 a.m. slot. It's currently heard Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.

Now Berle Wants to Play Disk Horses

Add the name of Milton Berle to those who might enter the New York disk jockey sweetshops. While it's still only in the talking-out-loud stage and no official conversations have taken place, it's reported that a contract, Berle would like to move into the heavy-platter-turning company of the Red Top Tunes and Andre Baruch-Bae Wain taking into the fold in recent weeks.

Berle, who produces "Life of Riley" and "Blondie" and Reed doubled over for the Jack Haley show, which he'll direct. Johnston formerly produced "Man Called X."

COLGATE'S \$1,000,000 RADIO BILLINGS HIKE

Chicago, Dec. 10. Colgate-Palmolive-Peet takes on another \$1,000,000 worth of radio billing yearly after deal by which they acquired Kay Dammitt Cosmetics for a reported \$4,000,000.

Fifteen-minute slice of "Breakfast Club," under Dammitt sponsorship, reverts to Colgate. It's a total of eight air shows for the firm. In event of the cosmetic product dropping show, ABC has four prospective sponsors nibbling.

The 41st Anniversary Number OF VARIETY

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6311 Yucca St.

CHICAGO 1
360 N. Michigan Ave.

SHOUSE UPPED BY 40

Cincinnati, Dec. 10. Elevation of James D. Shouse, president of the Crosland Broadcasting Corp., which operates WLW here and WINS in New York, to a vice-presidency in the Aviation Corp., parent organization, was announced last week by Irving Babcock, head of AVCO.

CBS' Do-or-Die Pitch for Teletint Brings Claims Net Is Ready to Go; U.H.F. Color May Lower Competish

Washington, Dec. 10. As the FCC today (Tues.) went into its second day of hearings on color television standards, with CBS making its all-out pitch for immediate permission to go into tint color, a non-technical policy for point was interjected into what has been up to now purely a technical discussion.

CBS' proposed system of giving the ultra high frequencies to color television only would keep those frequencies down to 27 channels, as against 87 channels that would be available if the dots were placed on black and white. FCC assistant counsel general Harry Plotkin pointed out that the dots would be in only two color video networks in the country, lowering the competition standards as seriously set by the commission which would like to see four wells.

This point, however, was incidental to the technical information piled thickly before the commission. Dr. Peter Goldmark, CBS director of engineering and research, and braintrust of teletint, unfolded a mass of surprising facts in a technical statement, probably the longest presentation of the kind ever presented at the commission.

At today's (Tuesday) afternoon hearing, Dr. Goldmark made the assertion that all television networks would be possible immediately, via coaxial cables, if the commission approved the CBS standards.

Further, Dr. Goldmark said he had handsomely provided the receiver which is capable of receiving any kind of black-and-white television and any kind of color in the high frequencies. He said he has also already built a color television table model receiver set.

These were considered powerful arguments for CBS. On the other hand, the fun is as yet ahead, with opponents of the CBS standards as yet to be heard from.

The net set, the first tent to Washington, weighted down with (Continued on page 38)

SWIFT'S TELE DEAL CUTS IN ALL THREE AGENCIES

Chicago, Dec. 10. Contract to handle all advertising for the entire line of Swift & Co. products was signed this week, by McCann-Erickson, a unique deal calling for the agency to work with Swift's two other agencies, Needham, Lord and Brody, and J. Walter Thompson in preparing commercials for the shows.

Present plans call for a video airing for many of the Swift products, while the medium is in an experimental stage.

Deal will not in any way affect the present agency account lineup for the major magazines, which is still vertising. No budget on the number of video shows has been set yet.

TELEFILM INTO VIDEO

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Telefilm, Inc., producers of commercial and industrial films, is ready to begin the work of making of special films for television.

To implement the plan, Don MacNaiman, formerly associated with Howard Hughes video interests, has been hired as a production assistant. Also formerly the production manager of NBC-affiliate, station KFI, MacNaiman starts Dec. 16.

Anton M. Leader

wonders whether

"E.T.'s Causing

D.T.'s"

an editorial feature

of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Chi Tele Breaks Mark With 50 Hours on Air

Chicago, Dec. 10. Breaking its previous record of 42 hours, 35 minutes of telecasting for one week, established during the NAB convention WGBH last week aired slightly over 50 hours of air.

Increase was brought about by extra hours of air time for dealer demonstration purposes. Outlets last week added basketball telecasts to its sports schedule, which includes hockey, boxing and wrestling.

Bendix Tint Runs On Hearing Eve

CBS color television received a back-handed blow on the eve of the FCC hearings in Washington this week as Bendix Aviation Corp. (Wednesday) (4) botched up a demonstration of the first commercial model color tele receiver.

Bendix receiver operates on the three-color sequential standards proposed by CBS and was built on patents owned by the net. Last week's demonstration followed the lines of the web's live color showing several months ago, but either through faulty transmission or poor technical details, the show was not successful.

Bendix' sequential color went out of synchronization for the first time, causing the screen to look like a series of three-colored vertical shield wipers across it. Bendix engineers claimed the dials could be fixed by simply manipulating the dials.

Colors, as in the CBS demonstrations, were excellent, but the set further exposed the fast-action sequences and breakup of the video was present in several instances, especially in the 16m film. As it was, the best part of the set was its ornate chassis. Between a console model with picture equivalent in size to that of a 14-inch tube.

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D'ARTEGA

What does a composer do on holidays—New Year's Eve, for instance? D'Artega, Lang-Worth's famous composer-conductor, ran off to rest and wrote "Dreum Concerto." Lang-Worth transcribed it, with full symphony orchestra. Broadcasters proclaim it 1946's greatest single contribution to American music.

LANG-WORTH, INC., NEW YORK

Public to Wait, RCA Still Does Sets by Priority

The general public is not likely to get delivery on new television receiver orders from RCA and DuMont until after Christmas, despite the new influx of full-page ads in the New York daily papers and national magazines. Chief reason for this is the recently-called-off coal strike, which knocked the pins out from under delivery plans.

RCA has a backlog of more than 10,000 orders due, but has the chance of an individual consumer getting a set before Christmas appears remote, due to General Kaye, sales chief of Bruno-N.Y. office, exclusive dealers for RCA products in New (Continued on page 38)

TOLEDO'S 453G TELE, FM PLAN GETS OKAY

Toledo, Dec. 10. Ford Industry Co., which operates WSPN Toledo, has received a construction permit for a commercial television station and an FM station in Toledo. J. Harry Ryan, vice president of the station, said plans have been made to build new studios and erect a television tower more than 500 feet high.

Entire project is expected to cost \$453,000. The call letters WTVT have been assigned to the station.

Inside Stuff—Television

Possible trouble confronting apartment house dwellers in metropolitan New York in getting their landlords' permission to install television antenna was pointed up by Ben Gross, N. Y. Daily News radio editor, in his column last Sunday (8). Noting that some property owners believe they are hoards, the others just don't want their roofs cluttered up, Gross declared "anyway, the result is same. You are out of your money with no benefits accruing."

What was forgot to point out, however, is that most tele manufacturers and dealers are following the pattern set by Viewtone in checking a house under conditions before finalizing sale of a set. If it's discovered, the house is not equipped with a wide variety of equipment, consequently, that the prospective customer would be out any money, which he wouldn't want to lose, the set goes away.

As Gross notes, though, the problem is still one to be reckoned with and, since the majority of future customers in metropolitan areas will probably be apartment house dwellers, something must be done to convert the landlords to the right way of thinking.

Current (Dec. 7) issue of the Saturday Evening Post features one of the first magazine fiction stories to be based on a television theme. "The Overlapped Picture" it's the story of the "Peerless Broadcasting Company" in a search for Miss Television, after realizing that "television is here."

Scripter is Irving Gray Neiman, whom the Post's "Keeping Poised" columnist identifies as the former writer of the "Joe and Mabel" soaper, old-time radio series, directed by a top guy in the business. Neiman must have been around the radio industry long enough to know the land workings of VARIETY. In the first part of his story he alludes to the fact that the announcement of the television queen search is being set in 60-point type at VARIETY's Rogowski Press on Pearl street within an hour after the web copy's decision to hold it.

A look-see at the Coast studios of Television Productions, Inc. (Paramount) points up the too-close relationship of Paramount and DuMont. The latter, directly, is a wide variety of equipment in use—the least of which is DuMont's. Though the latter is partly owned by Par, and makes virtually every kind of equipment necessary to produce television, it is equipped with a wide variety of electronic, electric, RCA and others, in addition to some DuMont items. Fact of the matter, says Lindenberg, is that Par and DuMont expect to be as competitive with each other, as they are with complete outsiders.

Dodgers-Yanks Baseball Telecasts Ford-Shell Sponsor Possibility

Television Reviews

TELE-VARIETIES
With Tommy Farrell, Herb Howard, Betty Hart, Ann Crowley
Producer: Wes McKee
Director: Ed Sobol
Writer: Richard Strauss
15th Place, 8:30 p.m.
WNET-NBC, N. Y.

With the promise of 1,000,000 television sets on the market by the end of 1947, Bristol-Myers is banking on its 13-minute Sunday night slot on WNET (NBC, N. Y.). Mrs. Ed Sobol, who formerly held down the spot with her travels on the "Geographically Speaking" show, finally ran out of film and was forced to relinquish the slot to start another worldwide trek in placement of the new "Tele-Varieties."

If the teletext program is any indication, even the cream time slot will be used to D-M any good. Even the present set owners, commonly known as "savings and loan" enthusiasts, can be expected to switch to their radio unless some thing is done about this.

Talent on the show isn't bad, what's more, the responsibility for its faults chiefly in the laps of the talent. Richard Strauss, producer Wes McKee, both of the agency staff. Gags are corny to the point of being boring, and the commercial is the kind to make viewers squirm in dislike. Camera work under the direction of NBC's (Continued on page 38)

Milkman's And Stanzas Gets NBC Coup; Gulf Oil Buys 'Artist'

Television gets its most pretentious audience participation show this year in the form of "Let's Celebrate" program over WNET (NBC, N. Y.). Young & Rubicam is the (Continued on page 38)

Since the show is considered too large for the regular 13-minute slot, NBC plans to stage it in the studio's lighting system will utilize three Image Orthicon cameras, marking the first time that I.O.'s are used in live studio work. Wes McKee of the agency is producer, with NBC's Ed Sobol as executive producer.

NBC also added a new sponsor this week and repeated three bank-rollers for other shows. New sponsor is Gulf Oil, which has taken over the "You Are an Artist" show, featuring painter Jon Grogg, on Thursday nights at 8. In addition, the Esso Television Network, formerly on Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., will be continued once weekly, on Mondays at 9 p.m.

Another show which formerly sponsored the "Geographically Speaking" show on Sundays at 8:15 p.m., has announced it will now carry the show titled "Tele-Varieties." U. S. Rubber, sponsor of the "Television Quiz" on Fridays at 8:15 p.m., has decided to continue in that slot, but with the emphasis on quiz questions involving the 1946 football season. Clair Bee, Long Island U.S. basketball coach, has been named to host the quiz. The show, Lou Little, Columbia grid coach, on the show.

TBA Sets Annual Meeting For N.Y. Jan. 7; Takes In 5

Annual meeting of the Television Broadcasters Association is slated for the Waldorf-Astoria, N. Y., Jan. 7. Meet is open only to official representatives of the member organizations. Election of three directors and another business matters are on the agenda. A reorganization of the board of directors slated for the afternoon session.

TBA board this week approved an application for active membership in the group from the Pulitzer Publishing Co. of St. Louis. Representatives of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, who were recently granted a construction permit for a commercial television station, George M. Burbach and John C. TCB were named as representatives to

Possibility loomed this week that sponsorship of the Brooklyn Dodgers and N. Y. Yankees baseball telecasts might be handled on a cooperative basis. Both Ford Motor and Shell Oil are understood to have made overtures in television, which will do the Dodgers and DuMont for the Yankees. It's believed that both banks' rollers might sponsor each team's games on alternating days.

J. Walter Thompson is the agency television people are thought to make the setting up of such a deal much easier. Ford has been the highest spender in television to date, with all its money invested in sports events pickups. Shell hasn't been so active in television, but all its money invested in sports for radio advertising.

N. Y. Giants games, which are to be televised next season by NBC, appear so far to be a cold potato videowise, much the same as they were last year. In fact, the team wound up in last place in 1946 and is not expected to do much better this year. With no other team to take the lack of sponsor interest in them, Baseball fans watching the games from television might as well pick the colorful Dodgers or Yankees over the Giants when they view the games.

Shell-Ford deal might be worked into a participation setup, with both agencies sharing the cost of the show on the same commercial. If they decide to solo on alternate days, however, the agencies' plugs are expected to offer a new radio agency copy writers, since the same viewers will be watching both commercials.

DuMont, meanwhile, announced that it had contracted with the Yankee management also gave it exclusive video rights to all seven home games of the Yankees football club in 1947. In addition to the 77 home baseball games, DuMont also plans to pick up, under a facilities permit, 11 Yankee games to be played in Philadelphia, Boston and Washington. Philly and Washington games will be transmitted to N. Y. over the Bell System's coaxial cable, with the B.S. also picking up over the new radio relay system, currently being finished between the two cities.

Bill Slater has been named to announce all games, with Jack Murphy handling the Philadelphia crew. Present plans call for the use of five Image Orthicons at the Stadium, with the B.S. also picking up an excellent picture of what goes on.

THACKREY FOCUSES ALL VIDEO IN L. A.

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Dorothy Thackrey has abandoned her intention of three-way operation in television and will concentrate all efforts in that direction on a prospective Los Angeles station. The owner of KTLA, which formerly carried KFYA, San Francisco, who originally planned to operate stations in New York and the Bay City, has requested of the FCC that she be permitted to withdraw the Gotham ad "Prisco applications without prejudice."

The plan, it's stated, is to go whole into the L. A. setup. It was figured that the grant of the KTLA license would not be done any single operation in the thin spreading of Thackrey's efforts. She thought best to concentrate on one, though it is indicated that the requests for licenses at some future date be reinstated.

"Yocks . . . Boffs . . . and Benzidine"

By Eddie Davis

an editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

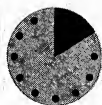
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VARIETY

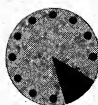
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WITH NEW YORK'S SENSATIONAL
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12 Noon to 2:00 pm



4:00 to 5:30 pm

"MR. AND MRS. MUSIC" present radio's pioneer development in recorded music shows (or disc-jockeying, if you please). It's entirely different from anything you've heard, or bought, in the past... original in itself... not a carbon copy or facsimile of any other program.

As a husband and wife record-spinning team, singing star Bea Wain and her commentator husband André Baruch dispense with the chatter of the breakfast table to talk across the turntables about their most familiar topic—music. They present America's top tunes, bands and vocalists on records, of course! But "MR. AND MRS. MUSIC" give recordings a *brand new* appeal with such unique features as...

RECORDS COME TO LIFE with guest appearances by popular band leaders, singers, composers and other famous personalities.

BEA WAIN SINGS with instrumentalists and during highly-publicized audience shows in the WMCA Theatre.

RECORD MAKERS "ON THE SET"—Bea and André visit recording studios to interview stars making tomorrow's hit discs.

INTRODUCING THE "BETTER HALF" as Bea and André interview husbands or wives of well-known music-makers.

"Mr. and Mrs. Music" go to town...

in the year's strongest bid for dominance of New York's daytime audience. The show boasts the name talent, the production, the novelty, the hard-hitting promotion* and advertising send-off which has made it a *great* show from its first broadcast. Bea's sultry personality and André's master salesmanship combine for perfect commercial balance.

"MR. AND MRS. MUSIC" is available in quarter-hour strips—periods which will sell fast, for we thought of the advertiser when we set the price—and the price is right! But that's merely part of the story. You should have all of the details. Check WMCA Sales or your Free and Peters representative.

First on New York's dial



Represented by Free & Peters

*Thanks for your barrage of spot announcements launching the show—Frances Langford, Jon Hall, Milton Berle, George Jessel, Kate Smith, Ted Collins, Ralph Edwards, Joan Edwards, Ella Logan, Jean Sablon, Jack Smith.

Pemberton Slings Sledge at Radio

Left: producer Brock Pemberton tells the radio commercial, which is a radio sledge and pun, and advocates that radio "show" producers commenters, "drop them through a trap door," or tell them to go back to Russia.

Pemberton, who admitted being "more or less allergic" to radio as a whole, last week (5) addressed the Radio Executives at New York in the third of a series of dissections entitled "What's Wrong With Radio?"

Earlier, H. V. Kaltenborn had kicked the subject around earlier this season.

The producer praised only one show, "Theatre Guild on the Air," which he said is "the number two show in popularity at New York."

"Of course, it's an easy thing to tell you that the commercials are the worst," he said.

"You know, if you had to have them though, it's a commercial institution. But I do think they would be minimized—if you had them 10 times during a 15-minute period, and then brief it. It goes for singing commercials too. Some of the commercials are needlessly realistic, particularly laxative commercials. I think commercials could be cleaned up a bit and it wouldn't hurt anybody at all."

He criticized night gags that puzzle the listeners too much at an early avarn gabbers who laugh at their own jokes, and touched on the warm-up show by saying: "May it would be a good idea to reverse—the warm-up show on the air and keep the other thing in the studio."

He took apart quiz shows a plump. He declared that quiz shows are played out and that "hoop-stings, I think, are practically all in the hands of the quiz show men." In the last Hoopering report, the Top 13 include the following shows that depend primarily on fast answers rather than on situations: Fred Allen, Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Charlie McCarthy, and Burns & Allen).

It was after these criticisms that, for his finale, Pemberton wound up with:

"It would be a fine thing to return to Americanism on radio and that you should shoot, or drop through a trap door, or do something to some of your commentators who still think that the war—remember the war—was won single-handedly by the Russians who think it is still on. And for all these Elliott R. quotations—I wish you'd give them the gate. I'm getting awfully tired of listening to them. If they like Russia, why don't they go back to it!"

WNYC, municipally owned station in N. Y., recorded the speech and broadcast it Thursday afternoon (5).

FCC NARROWS ISSUES ON DON LEE HEARING

Washington, Dec. 10. FCC on its own motion last week narrowed the issues in its hearing, slated for Jan. 14, in Los Angeles on the renewal licenses for the four owned and operated Don Lee Network stations.

Commission said it would consider only the legal qualifications of Tommy Lee, Don Lee's principal stockholder, and his hired help to continue to operate the stations and the web's activities in violating or persuading its affiliates to violate the FCC's chain broadcasting regulations.

FCC deleted from its former hearing notice consideration of Don Lee's program performance and technical and financial qualifications to run the network. Commissioner Rosel Hyde will preside over the Don Lee hearing. FCC attorney Bernard Kelen will try the case and Bill Dempsey of Dempsey & Kopolovitz will represent the network.

Omaha—When KOAD went on air four months ago, there were 30 FM sets in town. There are now 100 and the demand is getting greater by the day.

JOHN B. HUGHES SETS SIGHTS ON CORNBELT

Hollywood, Dec. 10. John B. Hughes, one time network commentator, is going bucolic. He is deserting the Hollywood scene, site of his former origins, and will go into indie station operation in Colety, Kan., with a \$5000 watter for which application has been made to the FCC. Local citizens are backing the venture.

Station will concentrate on former appeal via the use of mobile unit for remotes and other gimmicks. The area it will cover is said to be 75,000 miles of virgin territory, containing over half a million people, and info which no daytime radio comes. Due to freak conditions listeners may only hear Denver, Chicago and others at night but nothing during daylight hours. There is no station there now.

"What's My Name?" Up Again

"What's My Name?" and participation which has been on and off the air at various times, is being auditioned for new presentation in a deal between director Ed Byrnes who now owns the package, and John E. Gibbs.

New show is being scripted by Joe Cross and will feature Carole Landis as emcee. Program will be auditioned Friday night (12) at the Longacre theatre, N. Y.

No Bally, No Gab

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 10. Sidelight of Rochester daily newspaper blackout resulting from Typographical Union's strike.

A top New York radio executive booked as weekly lunchtime speller by the Rochester Ad Club cancelled "because there wouldn't be adequate publicity" for his postulations.

Edward P. Curtis, Kodak vice-president and former Air Forces aide to General Spatz, substituted speaking in favor of unification of the U. S. Armed Forces.

Texas Baptists Plan 20-Station FM Setup

Dallas, Dec. 10. The executive board of the Baptist general convention of Texas has appropriated \$175,000 for the operation of an FM radio network during the next five years and has approved plans submitted at the recent convention held at Mineral Wells. The group's program calls for operation of 14 FM stations, with 20 stations as eventual goal.

The FCC must approve franchises, and operation cannot be expected to begin for at least a year. The various stations would be financed locally. A radio committee will be set up within the Texas convention to carry out the web plans.

Yuletide Pattern to Fill Xmas Air With Special Format on Major Shows

Following pattern set for Thanksgiving Day programming, the nets are mapping a varied air menu for Christmas eve and Christmas Day with sponsors generally preparing to peg their shows onto a Yuletide greeting. As in former years, the nets have begun to schedule a series of Christmas shows which will keep increasing in number and tempo until the holiday is reached.

On NBC Bing Crosby guesting on Bob Hope's show will tee off festivities Christmas eve with a special program from a veterans hospital in the Los Angeles area. The same night, Rudy Vallee will have Loretta Young appearing in a seasonal playlet entitled "The Little Angel." On Christmas Day, General Mills and Prester & Gamble build their four quarter-hour stand alone strips from 2 to 4 p. m. around a Christmas theme, commencing at the 7-8-9 shows did on Thanksgiving day, each full hour with a common story line. United Warring's slot will present the story of Christ's birth through carols with a narrator reading quotations from the Bible, while "Mr. D. A. Hime" will give a Christmas angle to his crime story.

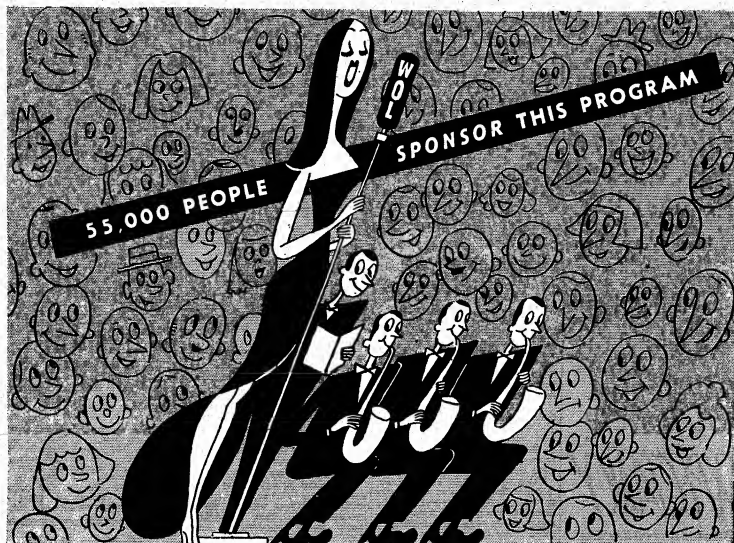
CBS will air on Christmas day another edition of "Two Hours of

Stars," annual event since 1942. Show will feature a string of radio names including Bob Hope, Edgar Bergen, Cass Daley, and others. On Christmas eve, a series of musical programs have been arranged.

ABC is also wrapping up a two-hour package, to be presented Christmas eve, starring Bing Crosby, Paul Whiteman, Henry Morgan and other network luminaries. Walter Winchell will launch the program with an editorial on the significance of this year's Christmas. On Christmas day, several special dramat programs are being set.

Mutual's special Christmas gimmick will be a broadcast of greetings from the Grenfell expedition in Labrador and Byrd Antarctic Expedition en route to the South Pole. On Christmas eve, the "American Forum of the Air" is being cancelled for a program of music by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Other musical programs have been set for Christmas day in addition to a special program originating overseas from among the occupation troops in Germany and Japan.

Fort Worth—Forrest Clough has been named program director of KFFZ.



Silver Spring, Maryland, is one of the many alert, prosperous communities served by WOL—a town which grew overnight to its present population of 55,000-plus*, and appears to be just beginning its real growth.

Civic-minded to an amazing degree, Silver Spring uses WOL to boost its advantages as a place in which to live and do business. Its Board of Trade sponsors a live 30-minute variety show on WOL every Thursday night—a production complete with dramatic cast, orchestra, starring vocalists and studio audience. Financed entirely by voluntary subscription of Board of Trade members, the program is darned good radio, darned sound advertising.

Other notable advertisers have the same sort of faith in WOL as a soundly-effective advertising medium. Washington's three largest buyers of program time are all on WOL—two on WOL exclusively! And Washington's largest department store recently broke precedent to place on WOL the first radio advertising in the store's history!

These are only isolated, typical examples of the overwhelming swing in the nation's seventh-largest city to WOL, Washington's fastest-growing station.

*1946 estimates of U.S. Post Office, Silver Spring, Md.

BASIC MUTUAL

A COWLES STATION

WOL

"THE VOICE OF WASHINGTON"

Represented nationally by THE KATZ AGENCY, INC.

Follow-Up Comment

•THERE'S PLENTY OF
BUSINESS IN
DAYTON, OHIO
Get Your
Share By
Using...
WING T. D. Wing
Weed & Co., National Representative

Troy—WTRY has begun a series of half-hour evening broadcasts titled "Sudden Death" designed to emphasize the dangers of reckless driving. Written and produced by Randy English, with narration by Bill Saunders.

Few New Broadcasters Turn to FM As AM Covers More 'Air-Poor' Area

Washington, Dec. 10. Despite the FCC's repeated assertions that FM is the most desirable service obtainable in the present state of the art, only 15% of the 263 companies which have standard broadcast station permits since V-J Day have filed corresponding bids for FM operation. This is the result of a comprehensive breakdown of AM and FM station authorizations released by FCC last week.

Partial explanation for the lack of enthusiasm for FM among newcomers to broadcasting is seen in other FCC figures which show that over half of the AM grants that have no existing stations. Another 23% went to stations with only one existing local service—and half of these towns had 50,000 or less population. Taken together, this means that almost three-quarters of the AM franchises handed out since the end of the war have gone to towns that badly needed local stations.

Although FM stations in most cases would have done the job more cheaply and with equal or better coverage, lack of FM receivers in process or the markets would mean still longer delays in getting local service. FCC officials indicate that majority of these grants went to newcomers in radio who wanted to reap quick profits from a going industry and, in addition, may not have had the cash to start from scratch with FM.

The Highlights
These are highlights of the FCC study: Multiplication of the small-town, small power AM station in the past year was clearly shown in the figures. The most common type of standard permit was for a 500-watt unlimited time station in towns of 50,000 population or less.

The erstwhile radio-poor south, south central and mountain Pacific areas came off with the lion's share of AM grants. This was designed to equalize listening opportunities in these regions with the well-served northeast, central and Great Lakes areas. Besides, the spectrum up north was already overcrowded. Seven out of 10 construction permits issued since V-J Day went to cities in the south Atlantic, south central or mountain Pacific states. All three regions received a greater proportion of the postwar AM grants than they had of the existing radio stations as of V-J Day. The populous New England, northeast area was the only U. S. region where the majority of grants did not go to towns under 50,000 population.

Figures on Changes
Between 1939 and V-J Day, the proportion of all U. S. cities with one or more radio stations rose from 16.6% to 22.3%. By September 19, 1946, this ratio had jumped to 29.6%.

Between 1939 and V-J Day, cities with greatest gains in number of stations on the air were the 10-25,000 and 25-50,000 population groups. In the past year, however, the 5-10,000 and 10-25,000 cities have gotten most of the AM grants.

As a result, all cities over 50,000 now have at least one and usually more radio stations; only six towns in the U. S. of between 25-50,000 population are without a local radio station.

An up-to-date breakdown of "Who's Who" in FM bears out earlier statistics showing that 74.6% of the grants have gone to AM licensees, 37.8% have gone to newspaper interests, and 11.9% to persons without either AM or newspaper affiliations. Newspapers are the largest single industry bloc, aside from AMers, in FM. They also account for 13.5% of the newcomers to radio who now hold FM permits.

BRACE OF CLEVE. SHOWS

Cleveland, Dec. 10. Two new shows have hit the air here.

With the Willoughby Machine & Tool Co. sponsoring, WTAM is handling a 15-minute show Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., featuring the orchestra of Henry Scorse, the Cunningham Sisters and Dick Roll as announcer. Product is automatic oil heater.

WGAR, sustaining, presents "Foot-light Funnies" Saturday nights at 11 p.m. wherein listeners attempt to stump theatre experts with questions in return for tickets for Hanna, Gabler Sid Androm in emcee.

Nighttime Net Shows Get Heave-Ho for Ball Game

Cleveland, Dec. 10. CBS' local outlet, WGAR, did a bit of fast program shifting in order to bring a professional football game from Miami for local listeners. The Cleveland Browns were scheduled to play Monday evening (2) and so WGAR cleared network shows beginning at 8 to carry the contest, thus cancelling out some key network shows. However, rain cancelled the game until Tuesday.

Tuesday night WGAR was carrying Vox Pop from studios from 9-9:30 so station cancelled all shows thereafter bringing recording of earlier minutes of game.

Questions raised on local scene were, "Did station jeopardize listening interests of network shows for local shows?" and "did network suffer by juggling of nights?" WGAR officials say, "no, switchboard was flooded by localities wishing to hear football game Monday night when rain cancelled game," and that station promotes listener interest by bringing football games to audience.

Send Her In
Hollywood, Dec. 10. "Sell it with glamour," long a theory with Jack Bourke, indie packager of flesh and wax, has been put into practice. Making the rounds of agencies with a brief case is beautiful Bea Carpenter. High point of Bourke's theory is that a pretty girl gets called in from the reception room faster than a buggy-panted male.

NAB Joins Retailers In Store Show Contest

Washington, Dec. 10. Spearheading an industry drive to popularize use of radio for retail advertising, the National Assn. of Broadcasters is cooperating with the National Retail Dry Goods Assn. in a nationwide contest to choose the best radio shows sponsored by retailers in 1946.

Winners will be announced during the NRDGA convention, Jan. 13-17 in New York. Prizes will be awarded in three divisions: Class A, retailers doing an annual volume of business up to \$1,000,000; Class B, \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000; Class C, \$5,000,000 and up.

Entries must be submitted to Howard Abrahams, NRDGA sales promotion division, New York, by Dec. 31.

FCC Does About-Face in Chickasha Case, Vacating Nighttime Grant

'Positive Labor Policy' Sought by NAB's Doherty

Washington, Dec. 10. "A positive labor policy" in broadcasting and throughout industry was urged by NAB director of employee relations Richard Doherty, speaking to the Alabama State Broadcasters Assn. at Birmingham last Friday (6).

Doherty pointed to the inequity of the Wagner Act which spells out specific rules for management but relies on "good sportsmanship and moral scruples" to guide the activities of labor groups. He urged fair and workable rules to apply equally to both parties to a labor dispute.

The NAB director suggested establishment of a federal Fair Labor Practices Commission to judge unfair labor practices and issue cease and desist orders against the offending party, either labor or management.

Full info on contest rules may be obtained from NAB's division of broadcast advertising or NRDGA itself.

Washington, Dec. 10. Another court test was averted here yesterday (9) when the FCC did a neat about-face and vacated an earlier grant of nighttime operation to a wee-wa-ter in Chickasha, Okla. Stations KQXR and KMPX, Bakersfield, Cal., were due to argue the case in the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia here today, had FCC not reconsidered its earlier grant to Chickasha. Both stations claimed the Okla. station would interfere with their secondary coverage, and that FCC had denied them a hearing to prove it. Commission, to settle the policy question once and for all, ordered a round-robin hearing on all bids for use of the 1560 kc channel in question, including the proposed bids of KMPX and KQXR for 10 kw on the same wavelength. At issue too, is KQXR's right to operate as A-1-B station with an interim treaty in effect which gives Cuba use of 1560 kc band.

St. Louis—Jean Lane, KMOX Director of Education, will chuck the stint next January to rejoin the Red Cross with the Hospital Division in Denver. Miss Lane served three years in the Red Cross in the European theatre.



WE'RE BUBBLING OVER!

It all began Saturday, November 30th, and continuing for 8 consecutive weeks, Hedda Hopper's Radio Show "This is Hollywood" for Procter & Gamble's Camay Soap...is dramatizing a Universal-International picture!

OVER C. B. S. NETWORK EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT, 10:15-10:45 p. m. E. S. T.

THE CAMAY RADIO SHOW

"This is Hollywood"
featuring **HEDDA HOPPER**
FOR PROCTER & GAMBLE'S CAMAY SOAP

November 30, "Notorious Gentleman" · December 7, "The Stranger"
December 14, "So Goes My Love" · December 21, "White Tie and Tails"
December 28, "Along Came Jones" · January 4, "The Egg and I"
January 11, "The Dark Mirror" · January 18, "Magnificent Doll"

McCann Heads Blue's Near-Sweep N. Y. AFM's Exec Posts, Losing 2 Board Positions; Record Vote Cast

All Blue local candidates for executive positions at New York Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians were voted into office for the seventh consecutive term last Thursday (5), with the exception of two executive board positions. This result, expected by the trade, as pointed out in last week's Variety, was achieved during a day of orderly balloting. There was none of the trouble that might have been expected as a result of the rather bitter campaign, marked by vicious name-calling.

Blue put into the top position are: Richard McCann, president; Sam Suber, v.p.; Charles Luck, secretary, and Emil Balzer, treasurer. They rode in on a three-to-two majority of the record 8,992 votes cast. Only seats they missed were on the board posted by Max Aarons, former Blue member who deserted the party two years ago to run independently for president, and Al Manuli. Both were candidates of the outfit, most active in recent years in attempting to unseat the Blue group.

With the number of votes cast was the heaviest in 802 history, hundreds more did not get to the polls. Lines were so long that many balloters refused to wait. Voting machines, supervised again this election by the Honorable Joe Compagni, whose integrity was doubted following the voting two years ago, were also used.

Executive Board elected, in addition to Aarons and Manuli, are: Jerry Jack Downey, vice president; P. Delmon, Joe Lindwurm, Henry McCann, Bob Sterne, Herman Tivim, trial board elected; Joe Compagni, Eddie Daly, Jay Haff, Al Knopf, Frank Lambert, Doc McGinley, Walter Powers, Sam Stein and Tiny Walters. Delegates to AFM convention: Emil Balzer, Charles Luck to Central Union of Labor Council, Lucie, Richard McCann, Sam Suber; to N.Y. State Federation of Labor, Henry McCann; to United Hebrew Trades, Louis Grupp.

Pitt's Urban Re-elected
Pittsburgh, Dec. 10.
Gene Urban was re-elected president of Local 60 of American Federation of Musicians at annual balloting last week, defeating his secretary-treasurer Jimmy Comarada and Nick Hagarty, respectively, were also re-elected.

However, three new men crashed the executive board this year. They were Sammy Marino, Harry Eglby and Leo Strlin.

NIDORF BUYS DORF INTEREST IN STAFFORD

George ("Bulletts") Durgon and Mike Nidorf, who have been co-managing Jo Stafford for the past few years, ended their association last week in New York. Nidorf, who has been the active half of the management coalition, bought out Stafford's interest for an undisclosed sum in a deal completely amicable. Durgon was in N. Y. at the time but left for the Coast Saturday (7). Durgon originally handled Miss Stafford alone. When he went in the Army however, he turned the singer over to Nidorf and split with him the 50% interest he held. This arrangement continued all through Durgon's service period and ever since he's been discharged.

Dunham's Reorg

Dunham's Reorg
Sonny Dunham is currently in New York preparing to reorganize his orchestra on lower operating cost.

Dunham was Dec. 26 at Parkersburg, Va. Will drop payroll to \$1,500 as against \$2,600 a year ago.

A Vet Is a Vet Local bandleader Tommy Jones, running against incumbent Spike Wallace for presidency of Local 47, American Federation of Musicians (16), last week started pressuring fact he is a veteran, having seen service as Army sergeant during recent wars. After first ignoring him, Wallace displayed concern over weekend and his backers surprised the town by heralding Wallace, too, as a vet.—of Spanish-American War vintage.

Immediately almost all vestige of flag-waving tactics ceased.

AFM Must Judge Kenton Dispute, Salmon Warned

Syracuse, Dec. 10.
American Federation of Musicians last week took a hand in the dispute between Dave Salmon, local promoter, and Stan Kenton and his musicians, his manager, Carlos Gabel, and General Artists, Kenton's agency.

Salmon had begun a suit for \$11,000 damages against Kenton for failing to show up here Oct. 16 for a one-night date. This brought a communique to him from the AFM advising that all disputes between AFM members and their union rules, must be referred first to the AFM for adjudication. By violating this rule, Salmon was told, he ran the risk of being placed on the AFM's unfair list.

While Salmon actually is not a member of the AFM, and a buyer of union bands he is not required to hold an AFM license, the AFM's pointed out to him how they could be drawn into the case. He had signed an AFM Form B contract when he contracted for Kenton, and this automatically, according to its clauses, drew the union into any dispute involving its members.

AFM wants Salmon to withdraw his legal action and lay his case before the AFM for settlement. In the event it cannot be adjudged in this manner, he may or may not be given an okay to go into civil court.

Phil Levant orchestra, at the Terrace Grill, Kansas City, will leave the Music Corp. of America to join Frederick Brothers office Jan. 1. He has been in the MCA fold for 15 years, virtually his entire career.

STARS RETURN TO BE CONSIDERED

Break-up of many top name orchestras of late weeks have much effect on the band business overall, it's felt by the trade, unless two things happen: (1) if the lagging business of the past six weeks or so surges back strongly, and (2) if those leaders who have given up all temporarily, remain out of circulation for any length of time after the h.o. bounces back.

As it stands, with biz off and few of the top names doing business commensurate with their former prices, their absence for a few months or more won't be felt, since most had not been fulfilling their usual role of making money for one-night and location owners, so that the latter could pour some profits back into ventures with lesser-known bands, thereby keep the cycle going. However, in the event that business comes back, a continued absence of maestros like Tommy Dorsey, Harry James, Woody Herman et al., who they would not be available to earn for promoters and location men the wages necessary to risk playing of lesser-known combos.

As for recording contracts, none of the disbanded leaders is likely to be disturbed. Most have fairly large backlogs that can keep the hand-pressed-for-production disc manufacturers in releases of their stuff for months. And if they run out, the bandleader can always round up within a reasonable time a band composed of radio studio players with ability, a sign of a leader's arrangements perfectly.

J. D. Gets Decca Out, M-G-M Deal?

Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra probably will become the first top name outfit to be signed by the new M-G-M label. Dorsey secured a release from his Decca contract late this week and immediately went into a huddle with Frank Walker, head of the new Metro disc subunit, over a term contract. Details of the deal, which hasn't yet been closed, are undetermined.

Dorsey had another year and a half to go on his Decca contract. He and his attorneys and manager had been dickering with Decca for the past couple weeks regarding a release, but certain details as to masters the leader had insisted on making, they had not wanted issued, delayed the final parting. This barrier was finally overcome.

M-G-M, which has been having some trouble snagging artists because of the latter's wariness about the launching date of the label, is now assuring those with whom they negotiate that their first disc release on the market by March 1, possibly sooner.

Hearing on Starr's Point Appeal Leads to Cue of ASCAP Move For Settlement of Availability Snarl

Bob Miller Due West

Hollywood, Dec. 10.
Bob Miller, songpluggers union press, will come to the Coast in February to spend a month listening to local grippers.

Miller rise will solicit aids from local pluggers for the annual benefit show program to be held in New York next spring.

Pluggers Wrath After Terpalace Oakley Ouster

Hollywood, Dec. 10.
Songpluggers, just about every last man Jack of the 117 of 'em here on the Coast, have given vent to most vehement blast against Casino Gardens as well as the downtown Avodon ballroom because both sites have obviously made efforts to discourage them from hanging around by suspending passes previously issued the combination.

Feeling commented to brew recently when Casino-Gardens manager, Kermit Bierkamp, revoked oakley, but pluggers rage became towering last week when Jack Rogers, owner of Avodon, had sign slipped up over boozed publicity announcing suspension of free admission stubs Rogers' action came after he observed a pluggers parade a party of six into the spot, linger for several hours, purchase total of two coffees and one beer, and bend the ear of Bob Cross whenever he was off the bandstand.

After publication of story in Daily Variety, pluggers talked of boycotting both spots, pointing out that because of the dereliction of one, all should not be penalized.

Much ado was made of fact that revocation of quotas was unnecessary, that all pluggers scribble off swindle sheets anyhow, and that it was the manner of ballroom's action that was "insulting." At least 150 of the louder squawking pluggers wanted to call a protest meeting to seek medium of regaining and reasserting dignity, but over weekend Mac Green, gro tempore director of western branch of pluggers' union, stated no pow-wow was officially in the works.

Other name-band terpalaces here, Palladium, Aragon, Meadowbrook, Trianon, continue to honor passes. Only other overt action has been switch in policy at Coconut Grove nightery, where orders have been issued that all habits, including pluggers, must always pay covers.

Publishers classification committee of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers went into session immediately after the first of Monday afternoon (9) in New York which may result in once and for all settling an era of availability arguments, which this year have caused more headaches among ASCAP executives than anything else.

As a result of the intra-committee battle the latter will get down to business immediately after the first of the year on the problem of re-classifying the availability ratings of a majority of the publisher-members of ASCAP. This move has been threatened for some time, but nothing was ever done about it, principally, it's felt, because many of the firms that now enjoy high ratings, and whose chiefs are on the committee, would not retain their current positions in light of a rating investigation.

What brought the availability problem to a head at Monday's meeting was hearing of an appeal by Herman Starr, head of the Warner Bros. publishing group, who previously had claimed that his three catalogs were no longer properly rated. Since his Harms, Inc. firm, once again enjoyed the availability point, he charged that the availability of his nearest competitor, and Witmark was being rated as 4.50 points, among the second highest group. Starr's claim flabbergasted many of the other firms. His reason for wanting more points for each firm, even seemed justifiable to some. Starr returned to his firm, with Starr's claim that each availability boost given smaller firms reduced the returns of his firm, with each increase of one firm, with no commensurate reduction of another, and thus the overall point value. And there have been many boasts the past few years, with no reductions.

Warner was against Starr's plea for a higher rating for each of his firms. Starr was against Starr. This reduced things to quite an argument until Starr was convinced that a move to raise his availability ratings at the moment would have the impetus for a concentrated outcry for further boosts from pulp all down the line, plus running the risks of accusations that the top guys were cutting themselves a bigger slice of the Society's annual moun.

On this basis, Starr agreed to wait for a more thorough examination of availability ratings. Attention will be given first to those catalogs in the 2,500-point class and lower.

'WHITE CHRISTMAS' HAS PLENTY XMAS RIVALING

Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" song, which becomes a best seller every year, has a long record of sales selling this year that it has had in the past. Several Xmas tunes have come during the past couple weeks to challenge it, notably the standard "Winter Wonderland." On the basis of new disc releases by Perry Como, Jo Stafford, et al. the tune, written in 1934, by Felix Bernard and Dick Smith, was now published by Bregman, Vocco & Conn, is breaking for a hit.

Other new Xmas tunes are doing fairly well, too, although they are not strong enough to rate bestseller distinction as yet. One is "The Christmas Song" and another "That Christmas Feeling."

Peet to Europe

Relja, Peet, prexy of Southern Music Corp., planned to Europe yesterday (Tuesday) from New York. He was accompanied by Mrs. Peet, who has toured Europe with branches in London, Paris, Barcelona, Stockholm and Amsterdam. He expects to be abroad some three months. It's his first European trip since before the war.

The

41st Anniversary Number

OF

VARIETY

Will be published late in December

Forms closing shortly Usual Advertising rates prevail

Special exploitation advantages

COPY and space reservations may be sent to any Variety office

NEW YORK 19	DORCHESTER 28	CHICAGO 1
154 W. 46th St.	43111 Yucca St.	360 N. Michigan Ave.

By The
Composer
of
"SYMPHONY"

**ACCLAIMED THE OUTSTANDING NEW BALLAD
BY THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY!**

THERE IS NO BREEZE

(To Cool The Flame Of Love)

THERE IS NO BREEZE

(To Cool The Flame Of Love)

music by ALSTONE

lyric by DOROTHY DICK

French lyrics by André Tchaïet and Roger Bernasconi
Chorus, Slowly with expression

There Is No Breeze To cool the flame of love. Then words are
De tout man quer, je te dis que je t'aime, De tout man
old but oh! So true of love. We're here to go
quer, je veux chan-fer l'a-mour, Fe-tifs
geth-er mes the moon is high coors Star-dust is fall-ing
Où longe dis C'est un vireux éto-me
and no am-fours Oh! what a night, there's
Qui pleit tou-jeurs Je sais, tris, rien que
mag-ic in the air So hold me tight and de
c'est un grand pro-bleme Tu es trop sûr de
tell me that you care For I'll al-ways a-dore you
te-nir mon bon cœur Pour-tant je n'ai pas peur
true as stars shine 'a-love There Is No Breeze to
C'est fra-gile a few flames De tout man quer fe
cool the flame of love. There Is No love. rati.
je te dis que je t'aime De tout man t'aime.

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For North America (and the Territories, possessions, and dependencies of the United States) the British Empire and Cuba.

Recorded by

TOMMY DORSEY

Victor

SKIP FARRELL - JIM HILLIARD

Mercury

JUDY GARLAND

Decca

EDDY HOWARD

Majestic

GENE KRUPA

Columbia

ALVINO REY

Capitol

GRIFF WILLIAMS

Sonora

... and in major
transcription libraries

NAT BRANDWYNNE

World

VIC DAMONE

Associated

HAL DERWIN

Capitol

TOMMY DORSEY

Long-Worth

MORTON DOWNEY

Coca Cola

FRANKIE MASTERS

Long-Worth

GEORGE TOWNE

Muzak

And The Most Played Ballad Hit Of The Season!

THE WHOLE WORLD IS SINGING MY SONG

lyric by Mann Curtis music by Vic Mizzy

On The Upeat

New York

Ina Ray Hutton back on Coast for first after temporarily disbanding orchestra. Resumes Feb. 1 or thereabouts. . . . New White World band broke up in N. Y. before it even got a job. . . . RCA-Victor rebuilding its Dec. 10 at downtown New York City headquarters; work won't disturb recording schedule. . . . Elliott Lawrence returns on Vaughn Monroe radio show Dec. 14 and Frank Sinatra shows the 16th. . . . Fire department diligently covering appearances of Sinatra at Waldorf, N. Y., to prevent overcrowding in 282-seat Wedgwood Room. . . . Children's Record-Motion Picture Organization in N. Y. state. . . . Four Notes now cutting for International Records in N. Y. . . . Bruce Hayes out of Vincent Lopez orchestra; band goes into N. Y. Strand for two weeks Dec. 13. . . . Raymond Scott into Sheraton hotel, Chicago, Feb. 14. . . . Paul Orland, General Artists accountant in N. Y., quit to open own business. . . . Capitol Records Hollywood execs flying into N. Y. next week for first recording date at newly leased RKO-Patino studios with Brian Kenton orchestra. . . . Kenton's new vocal list will be listed here.

Hollywood

Orin Tucker set for indef. stand at Mark Hopkins, San Francisco, Jan. 7. . . . Tonight stand commences Dec. 20 at East Frontier, Las Vegas, Nev. . . . Charlie Barnett opens month stand at Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Calif., Fri. (13) Grady King orchestra opened for month at Hilton hotel, Long Beach, Mon. (9). . . . Leighton Noble returns to Claremont hotel, Berkeley, Calif., Feb. 9 for ten weeks. . . . Raymond Cavallaro inked into Million Dollar Theatre, L. A., week of Jan. 8. . . . Spade Cooley's music-rhythm crew back from San Joaquin Valley one-nights. . . . Hal Pruden band going north for eight weeks at St. Francis, San Francisco, opening Jan. 14. . . . Benny Strong, midwest band, makes first Coast appearance with four weeks at

Last Frontier, Las Vegas, opening Jan. 3. . . . Norma Tegenfeldt, 88er, now sitting with brother Jack's sextet, current at Suzy Q. Hollywood. . . . Alvino Rey due on Coast with his own orchestra. . . . Band will hit the road again next week, teeing off with vaudeus show at Oxygyn theatre, Miami. . . . Ciro Rincina's Latunc combo going to Havana for month, on heels of current tour of Oxygyn theatre, Miami. . . . Bob Crosby spending \$4,500 on new library, with his repertory now "young."

Jack Flynn is out of William Moray office for second time in two years. . . . Jack Archer takes the spot. . . . Jack Tegenfeldt bedded on doctors' orders for the next four weeks after coming down with pneumonia over the weekend. . . . Charlie Tegenfeldt, maestro's brother, takes over fronting of the combo, currently at the Suzy-Q. Hollywood nitory.

Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 10. . . . Charlie Spivak playing the Northwestern homecoming dance. . . . Tony for taking over from Bernie Cummins at La Martinique. . . . Frankie Laine on Chestfield show. . . . Spike Jones coming around with 4-Hers at their national convention. . . . Artie O'Farrell into the Sheraton Hotel, Jan. 3. . . . Raymond Scott into Oriental theatre on Dec. 19. . . . Illinois Central hospital with appendicitis. . . . Milt Davis, 19, week before last. . . . Cab Calloway into the Regal, Jan. 17, after playing Panther Club two weeks.

Vic Enley, drummer and organizer of Harry Colel orchestra leaving band. . . . Boyd Reuben visiting band a week before last. . . . Pat Tully, popular folk Friday at Chi Burke & Van Huzen office, hospitalized at Racine, Wis., after auto crash. . . . Johnny Long into the Orpheum theatre, Omaha, week of Jan. 24.

Dallas

Denny Becker orchestra opens Friday at the Plantation. . . . Nick Stuart crew currently on the stand at Pappy's Showland. . . . Joe Capocchia set to open at the Yacht Club this week. . . . Dray Gillespie band with Ella Fitzgerald, is slated for a one-nighter at the Yacht Club Friday (13). . . . Eddie Williams, former vocalist with the Interstate Theatre radio show "It's Show Time," has joined Don Kaye orchestra now at the Mural Room of the Baker hotel.

BUDDY MORENO SETS PLANS FOR NEW BAND

Buddy Moreno, who has been planning a band for some time, is now due to give more direct attention to that idea. Formerly with Dick Jurgens and Tommy Dorsey, as a singer, Moreno, also getting out of service. . . . He has been singing under the management of Arthur Michael. He will start the band soon after the first of the year.

Instrumentation of the new outfit will run to 12-men plus Moreno and eight singers. His style will be predominantly sweet.

Vido Musso, Lower Prices Help Coast Meadowbrook

After a relatively long period of crimson, the ledgers at Meadowbrook ballroom, Culver City, Cal., say Lombardi's showings are bright and the cause may signal a shift in policy at the terpale. Current is Vido Musso's new orchestra, which made its public bow in Meadowbrook two weeks back. To the band's manager, Freddy Goodman agreed to play for scale, which permitted operator to cut the band's admission, more than half (currently 60¢). With the ballroom making a profit, Zucca has been on the spot since Oct. 15. If it were streaks that long it will prove lengthy run for any band at spot to date.

Prior to Musso's advent, Meadowbrook absorbed losses during such periods as by Harry James, Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington. Current profit is first for Culver City since 1935. Stan Kenton twirled em through the turnstiles last July.

MPPA, SPA Still Probing Terms

Music Publishers Protective Assn. board of directors and representatives of the Songwriters Protective Assn. meet again in N. Y. today (Wednesday) in an attempt to iron out terms of a new contract. Initial meeting of the two factions last week (4), was claimed to have been very congenial, aside from minor squabbles. It is felt members will go on for sometime yet, and possibly beyond the Jan. 1 expiration date of the current agreement.

Representatives of both sides spent most of their meeting time last week smoothing out questions concerning writers' revenue from folios and changing the minimum and maximum number of tunes allowed to be included in such music books to four and 25. However, nothing arrived at has so far been put into legal language, and until it all is ready for signing by both sides, nothing agreed upon at the mgts is adjudged to be final.

SWEETEN UPBEAT IN BRITAIN, TOO—GERALDO

Sweeter music, on the upbeat in Britain, for the past year. . . . Geraldito is singing in England, according to Gerald, w.k. British maestro, who has a number of tunes that are being, which became a craze in the files following the introduction to Britain of American troops, is disappearing and couples are returning to cheek-to-cheek tepping.

Comments were made in a transcribed interview with Percy Faith, conductor of the "Carnation Concert" in London. . . . Dick was in Australia for broadcast on the Australian Broadcasting System, Gerald said that soon after the American troops began to leave England the demand for hot tunes began to drop. . . . However, the English musicians listen eagerly for new trends in American music, which eventually find their way to Britain.

MCA Heads Set 3-Day Meet in Chi Sat. 14

Hollywood, Dec. 10. . . . Annual meeting of Music Corp. America heads opens Chicago Saturday (14) morning with Lew Wasserman and Taft Schreiber heading Coast contingent leaving here, tomorrow (Thursday). . . . The rule will preside at three-day session, which also will have Sonny Workin and other N. Y. men in attendance.

Stein will give his opinion of Latin American market based on four-month tour just completed. Coast troupe returns here Dec. 16.

"Blues Joy," which occupied No. 1 sheet sales slot in England for past 24 weeks straight, finally slipped to No. 2 last week. Run on top was longest in English sales annual. Shipiro-Bernstein, which owns song in U. S., starts on it here soon.

Bands at Hotel B.O.'s

Band	Hotel	Covers	Flour	Covers	Flour
Sammy Coleman*	Waldorf	400; \$21.00	9	3,175	24,725
Sammy Coleman*	Waldorf	400; \$15.00	9	2,825	16,275
Sammy Coleman*	New Yorker	400; \$11.50	1	1,650	2,675
Johnny Lawrence*	Pennsylvania	500; \$11.50	2	1,950	3,450
Johnny Long*	Commodore	400; \$11.50	2	1,500	4,350
Johnny Pineapple Lexington	400; \$11.50	5	1,075	4,900	

* Indicates Floor Show; at Waldorf, Frank Sinatra.

Chicago

Mel Cooper (Mayfair Room, Blackstone hotel; 350; \$25.00 min.). Dimout this week; 3,700. . . . Glen Gray (Panther Room, Sherman hotel; 500; \$15.00-\$25.00 min.). Old variety around here and should do well. . . . Harry Colel closed Friday (5) and Gray took over (6). Around 4,300, just fair. . . . Stephen Kitley (Marine Room, Edgewater Beach hotel; 500; \$15.00-\$25.00). On this week, took with 3,600. . . . Joseph Dady (Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel; 465; \$25.00-\$35.00 min.). Candy contented offer drop here with firm 3,100. . . . Ted Verna (Boulevard Room, Stevens hotel; 550; \$33.00 min.). Hotel's bring headquarters for International Livestock show didn't hurt. Bolls 4,500.

Los Angeles

Freddy Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$11.50; indef.). Pre-Xmas sag skidded down to 2,800; still okay. . . . Russ Morgan (Biltmore; 900; \$11.50; indef.). Santa's coming casts a blight here, too, but okay at 2,700.

Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

Boss Carlyle (Blackhawk; 500; \$22.50 min.). Spot really took a beating this week; 3,700. . . . Gus Gayle (Chez Paree; 650; \$3.50 min.). Ninth week out to 6,300. . . . Eddy Howard (Aragon Ballroom; \$50.00-\$115.00 min.). Nitty 18,000. . . . Buddy Shaw (Latin Quarter; 700; Second show min. \$2.50). Bad times with 2,500. Last week of Willie Howard. . . . Lawrence Weik (Trianon; \$90.00-\$115.00). Fancy 17,900.

Los Angeles

Desi Arana (Ciro's, N. Hollywood, 4th wk.). Generally stagnant since Arana's reflected here, too. But 2,200 last week. . . . Bob Crosby (Avodon, B. Los Angeles, 4th wk.). Closed out Sun. (8), with final stanza around 7,000. Count Base commenced month stand last night 1,100. . . . Jan Garber (Aragon, B. Ocean Park, 13th wk.). Fewer than 6,000 last stand. Art Kassel in this week. . . . Yoda Mike (Blackhawk, Culver City, 5th wk.). With admish slashed to 60c, and new band in at scale, operator Joe Zucca is seeing some profit. Around 3,500 last session. . . . Orin Tucker (Caino Gardens, B. Ocean Park, 4th wk.). Horace Hired now operating three-week weekends only. Osborne in Fri. (8) and legend about 3,000 on the sendoff. . . . Orin Tucker (Caino Gardens, B. Ocean Park, 4th wk.). Last week, final full stanza, about 7,000 payees. . . . Tommy Tucker (Paladium, B. Hollywood, 3d wk.). Ante-holidays torpor felt here also; 13,000.

Heard, Josephson In Wrangle on Contract After Cafe Cancellation

J. C. Heard's small combo and Barney Josephson, operator of Cafe Society Downtown, New York, got into a tussle last week over a benefit done by Heard's band, and it's been referred to N. Y. local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians for settlement. It seems Heard's combo went to the Apollo in N. Y., last week to do a benefit, with operator Barney Josephson's permission, and due to the usual delays at such affairs got back 20 minutes after the cafe's 215 show was to start. Heard was given two week's notice.

Heard claims he's on the second leg of two six-month contracts, which doesn't expire until Feb. 12. He says it wasn't his fault he was late. He wants Josephson to pay or play him for the remainder of the contract.

Guy Lombardo's orchestra will move into Times Square, N. Y., Saturday (14) afternoon to "Auld Lang Syne" at Broadway streets out of circulation.

SANTLY JOY Standards

WALLACE-CAMPBELL CONNELLY
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1619 Broadway, New York 19
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Song Suggestions for your CHRISTMAS Programs HOME

LIGHT A CANDLE IN THE CHAPEL

WITH CHRISTMAS MORNING IN YOUR HEART

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Top Tunes for Your Books All-Time Favorite EXACTLY

LIKE YOU

Music by . . . JIMMY McHUGH

Shapiro-Bernstein

The Distinguished Delineator of Songs MISS THEATERS

with Reginald Beane at the piano opens an indefinite engagement on Dec. 13

AT THE ZANZIBAR, NEW YORK

EXCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATED BOOKING CORP.

JOE GLASER Pres. 745 Fifth Ave. New York 22 PL 3-5572

Rose Renews Diamond Horseshoe, N.Y., Lease for 5 Yrs. at \$55,000 Rental

Landlord difficulties of the Diamond Horseshoe, N.Y., were settled last week when Billy Rose, spots bonafide, signed a new five year lease for the spot in the Paramount hotel calling for \$55,000 annual rental. New agreement calls for a five year lease and a five year option period.

Rose originally leased the room when retail values were low and was able to get rental at \$18,000. New price is in keeping with the prevailing rate for most large midtown nightclubs. Carnival, located in the Capitol hotel, also pays \$55,000.

New lease ends an extended period of negotiations which started early this year when Jules Epstein, Chicago hotel man, took over the Paramount hotel. Epstein subsequently sought to renegotiate a new lease and during several points in the deal, it was thought that Rose would have to move and Ralph Berger, operator of the Latin Quarter, Chicago, would come in.

New lease ends all speculation on the Diamond Horseshoe.

George Burns

reminds when the

"Virginia Judge Kelly Ruled"

an editorial feature

of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Sinatra Not Scrambling Waldorf, N. Y., Date Despite Airshow Report

Report on the Walter Winchell airshow that Frank Sinatra would scam the Waldorf-Astoria hotel before his contract expiration, Dec. 19, created a bit of excitement at the Park avenue hotel. Shortly after report was heard over the air, management got in touch with Sinatra, who claimed that he had no such intentions.

Sinatra will be succeeded on Dec. 20 by a full show, first time this is going in for multiple acts on its display. Sinatra, O'Malley, "The Avenue," will top the layout, with assistants from Jane Deering and Harold Lang, ballet team "There to Make Ready," John Molinari, accordionist, completes the lineup.

Ethel Waters into Zanzibar. Ethel Waters is going into the Zanzibar, N. Y., Friday (13) to take the place of June Richmond who has a commitment at the Plantation club, St. Louis.

Miss Waters' deal is for three weeks.

Florida Nitery Angling Grace Fields for Feb. Date

Colonial Inn, Hallandale, Fla., is negotiating for Grace Fields for show following run of Joe E. Lewis, who closed Jan. 18. Miss Fields is currently subbing for the elite Hildegarde at the Persian room of the Plaza hotel, N. Y., and is slated to go into the Roxy theatre, N. Y., in the theatre's next show.

Coal Truce Brightens

New Year's Eve Nitery Stance; Last Big Kill?

Saturday's (8) sudden end of the coal strike and subsequent repeal of the emergency act, has brightened bonafides' outlook to the point where many have posted New Year's eve sales quotas. Having been fearful that the bleak looking Steam and travel restrictions would keep many from celebrating the city's ending in a big way, cafe owners have been holding up the posting of their bills for the night. Generally, are the same as last year. Even before John L. Lewis pulled the plug on the coal strike, the city was full of showing their scales, preferring to wait until they saw what the competition was doing.

Prices up to \$20 for ringside tables in many spots indicates that the operators are out to make the most out of what may be the last big year with a semblance of wartime spending. They're hoping that many who have been kept away by economic fears and uncertain outlook will loosen up sufficiently to spend the big night in a safe given if for that evening only.

Many still feel that there's nothing new about the recession, it's the economy mannequin as there's little unemployment and wages are the highest in history. It's the return of common sense, rationalization and a prevailing general leveling off period that's causing the recession, it's claimed.

Spots like the Carnival, Embassy and the Riviera are going after a \$20 minimum, depending upon location. The majority of class spots, however, are advertising a \$15 scale plus \$3.50 amusement. The Waldorf-Astoria hotel is advertising that scale in the Persian room of the Plaza. Both these hotels are opening lesser rooms with lower fees for that evening. The low end, where Lucius Boomer hotel will be \$5, while the Oak room of the Plaza will operate at a \$2 cover, and the Palm Court will have a \$12.50 minimum.

The Astor hotel is opening up the Grand ballroom where payees can get away with a \$9 plus tax tab. The Monte Carlo is ending their trade with possibility of a \$15 per person bill and the Greenwich Village Inn is advertising a \$15 evening.

Reservations, so far, are under those of last year, which incidentally was one of the best years in history. Notable fact, so far, is the lack of underselling. Two years ago, and to some extent the year before, bonafides urged that prospective patronage stay away from cafes unless they had reservations. There will be no such thing this year.

Variety Acts Hissed Back To Moscow by 'Sticks'

(Special to The New York Times)

MOSCOW, Dec. 7.—The sad plight of a vaudeville troupe that not only did not work in the Soviet Union but furthermore was sent back to Moscow after the third time was the subject of lively comment in Moscow today.

The troupe was the Moscow Obregon (region) Philharmonic ensemble, an imposing title for the group of variety artists whose lines, songs and dances were criticized in the newspaper *Pravda*.

R. Nadyezhdin, couching his words in the name of Gato Diavolo, the Carthaginian neighbors, declared that many variety artists of the Philharmonic "have not learned a new line or a new song nor prepared a single new dance" in recent years.

Like many an American theatre-goer, Mr. Nadyezhdin is fed up with rumbles, which he said were "executed practically exclusively" by the troupe.

He also likes his art clean. He remarked that the miniature theatre of the Philharmonic recently staged shows that were nearly 100 per cent concerned with marital infidelity, and its present shows are not much better.

(From the N. Y. Times.)

"Nitery History Repeats Itself" By Sophie Tucker

compares post-World War I and new in cafe circles

an editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

McGIVNEY PACTED FOR MURRAY'S 'BLACKOUTS'

Owen McGivney, British protean actor, who had been a topline in S. V. since he was 16, has come out of retirement, and currently in the Coast, having been pacted by Ken Murray for new edition of the latter's "Blackout" at the El Capitan theatre, Los Angeles.

McGivney will do this former act and also incorporate "The Wager" as an afterpiece for the show.

AGVA Uys Nerret

Fred Nerret, currently northwestern regional director for American Guild of Variety Artists, has been appointed to most of coordinator in the national office of AGVA in New York, assuming post next week.

Promotion was made by Matt Shelvey, national head of AGVA. New duties will place him in charge of certain field territory for which he'll handle trouble shooting and adjustments. He'll work directly under Shelvey.

Saranac Lake

By Happy Benway

Saranac Lake, Dec. 10.—"We The Patients" of the Will Rogers theatre over the salute given them by Joe Laurie, Jr., via the "Can You Top This" program last week.

Robert Goldstein elated over airplay from his wife, Helene Wechsbaum and the Raymond Fettes.

Friday greetings are in order for Helen Phelps, James Wotton, Edna Hagan, Laura Sloan and Walter Hoban, all at the Rogers. Loretta Munger motored in from Albany to visit James Wotton, who is doing nicely.

Helene Lachere Carlson, former songstress, plenty happy over good clinic reports.

Happy Connolly planned to be beside his son, Robert (JATSE) Connolly, who is flashing good clinic reports.

William Lerner, Jr., given four-fifths to visit friends in N. Y. C. Bert Jeter, who cured here and squashing on the Coast, sent Helen Carlson and the gang greetings and good wishes.

Louise Barnes, who is doing a strictly bed routine, recently beat minor setback and has been out for picture shows.

Edna Hagan, who recently underwent minor operation, back at the Rogers.

Write to those who are ill.

Shelvey Planes

Continued from page 45

to attend convention will have absentee vote privileges.

Shelvey's trip to Chi is merely to lay the ground work for the confab, which branch taking out of town from there and Shelvey returning to New York latter part of this week. He will check up some of the important matters in the national office of AGVA between now and Jan. 15, when he will be back in New York.

Shelvey's hiatus at initiation of his medical and then figures going direct to the show. During his hiatus, Shelvey, Dave Fox, head of union national, will double as acting national administrator.

Kent Reelected Prexy of ARA

Artists Representatives Assn., for the first time since its formation in 1940 has elected Chicago indie agents as officers of the group. ARA in its election, meeting last week, named William E. Goss, Jr., as president, and John F. Dugan, as president of the organization and elected Sidney J. Page to the board.

Goss, partner in the Riley and Goss agency, is president of the Entertainment Managers Assn. of Chicago. EMA recently concluded negotiations to make that group part of ARA.

Rest of the officers were re-elected. William Kent, ARA's president since its inception was handed the top post; Nat Lefkowitz, William Morris and Gus Kerner, all members of the General Artists Corp., and Goss were named vicepres; John F. Dugan, of Music Corp. of America, secretary, and Nat Kalchauer of William Morris, treasurer. Kalchauer and Goss were nominated by petition and voted not on the original slate set up by the ARA nominating committee.

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**~~NOT~~ TO BE OPENED
BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

In the eight years The Horseshoe has been open I've never hollered very loud about any one performer. I've always figured it was smarter to sell the place as one big candy box, rather than spotlight a particular bon-bon.

But I've got a comedian in the show now who rates a little better than that. He may be remembered when my jazz-and-juniper joint is forgotten. His name is JACKIE GLEASON. I first caught him as the roly-poly sailor in "Follow The Girls". I thought he had the makings of a big-time funny-man in the grand tradition. I still think so. With the right break he'll zoom up there with Fred Allen, Bob Hope and the rest of the heavy-sugar boys.

Before they hit him over the head with a sock full of gold and mail him out to Louis B. Mayer, you can see him twice nightly (at 8:15 and 12:15) and three times on Saturdays (8, 10 and 1) in our new show, "Venus On The Half Shell", staged by John Murray Anderson.

B. R.

Billy Rose's
DIAMOND HORSESHOE

In Hotel Paramount

46th St. West of B'way

Circle 6-6500

Reserve now for New Year's Eve

Thank you very much, Billy

jackie gleason

Direction—WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY

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WILL WEBER—ANTHONY PHILLIPS
48 West 48th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Legiters in Snarl as 'Hamlet,' 'Birthright' Rated 'Musical Plays'

Reports from Chicago that the GI "Hamlet" was classified by the city as a musical play, sidestep the question of whether or not requiring more men in the pit is not the first time that Shakespearean works have been similarly rated. New York musicians local did the same thing with "The Tempest" was revived on Broadway last season. There was a hasty protest, but the matter never was clarified, though the odd union ruling was made some time after the show opened.

Two Broadway attractions are currently engaged in musicians union regulations. "Happy Birthday" and the Joos Ballet.

"Birthright," rated a musical play, teamed with five musicians, one pianist on stage. A compromise was reached, and instead of 10 men in the pit it was agreed to use nine. Show management is protesting the union rule that it receive the musical comedy scale, "Birthright" being generally classified as a straight comedy.

Joos Ballet, at the City Center, has a setup of three pianists delivering the score but the union requires a standby orchestra of 10 pieces. Show management was in a dispute over the rating of "Dark of the Moon," which the union classified as a musical play. A couple of musicians were used on stage and half a dozen in the pit. Union refused that musicians be employed at the musical comedy scale, after the attraction opened. That pit compromise was used for the balance of the engagement.

In Chicago, too, last season the musicians insisted that "Hamlet" be in the "Late George Almy" had to join the union. It was proven that the player actually couldn't play but was taught to finger half a dozen bars on the ivories, as called for by the part. However, it took a lot of convincing before the union conceded that its stance was faulty and the membership was finally cancelled.

Incidental music was composed by William Brooks for "Hamlet" to highlight broader scenes at the suggestion of Maurice Evans, starred in the revival, "Hamlet," presented by Mike Todd, is winding up in Chicago next week, playing at the Grand Des Moines and Kansas City next week. It jumps from the latter to the States, opening at the Metropolitan harmonic auditorium, Dec. 30 after a layoff. Latter house has been rented to the Biltmore had been previously booked.

Attraction goes to San Francisco for three weeks starting Jan. 6, it is scheduled until March 10, at its return date in N. Y. at the City Center possible. Todd's "Up In Central Park," which claims a record in Indianapolis last week, started a two-week date in Detroit Monday (8). To follow are three weeks in Washington, one in Baltimore, two in Pittsburgh and two in Boston.

Petrillo vs. Evans

Chicago, Dec. 10. Maurice Evans' modern version of "Hamlet," with its "musical" background, has finally caught Petrillo's eye. Musicians union has been in musical "Hamlet" for some time.

Action added more than eight extra to the pit. Play has been running more than 100 weeks as a straight dramatic attraction. So far no boost in price has been announced.

The Theatre Guild's Lawrence Langer

worries about

"Curbs Which Could Hurt the American Theatre"

one of the most features of

VARIETY'S

41st Anniversary Number

Out Soon

'Flag' Due for Windup On B'way, Then Slated For Indef Chicago Stay

"A Flag Is Born" is winding up nearly four months on Broadway today (10) and will lay off for two weeks, then opens in Chicago at the Studebaker. Engagement there is to be indefinite minimum period to be four weeks.

Jonathan Harris temporarily stepped into the lead last week, Jacob Ben Ami requiring additional preparation for his appearance on Tuesday (10). Little Almer departed for the Coast last Friday (8), he having taken over the part originated by the late M. J. Lewis at the end of the fourth week, having agreed to appear only for that period.

Incidentally, "Flag" has become increasingly involved in an argument between the sponsors and those quizzical of the American League for a Free Palestine, which sponsors the propaganda drama. It had been charged by Dr. Judah L. Magnes, head of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, that the play "makes an open appeal for funds for the purchase of arms for terrorist groups in Palestine." He said that those responsible for the play deceive Americans who sympathize so deeply with the tragic fate of the Jewish people and with the plight of hundreds of thousands of displaced Jews.

Sen. Guy M. Gillette, president of the League, declared the Magnes charges to be "extravagant, distorted and false," and that they "may have behind them some motive for political expediency." Mentioning letter critical of "Flag" and its purpose, from Dr. Magnes, the statesman is quoted as saying: "He is guilty of mistating every pertinent fact in connection with the political aims of the League and the use of funds secured by the play. All money goes to the repatriation fund headed by Ben Hecht, Will Rogers, Jr., and Louis Bromfield."

Hecht, now in Hollywood, commented caustically, not bitterly, on the Magnes charges, mentioning "ostich Jews whose greatest fear is that they may irritate their enemies and who regard doing anything less than dying as a faux pas... a revolutionary war is going on in Palestine, and American Jews have chosen the side of his British benefactors."

Dunham Dance Revue Slated for London

"Bal Negro," starring Katherine Dunham and winding up a six-week engagement at the Belasco, N. Y., Saturday (16) is slated for London. The show will lay off for a few weeks, sailing upon receiving word that the opening date abroad might be definitely fixed. No indication at the Belasco will be "Belques," a revival, starring Bert Lahr and Jean Parker, due Christmas.

Indicate Ease Of Wash. Negro Ban

Committee For Racial Democracy in Washington, which is pressing an "economic campaign" against the National theatre's exclusion of Negroes, has gotten some indication that the alleged discriminatory custom might be dropped. The plan is to buy tickets which are given to Negroes, who go to the theatre at certain times and are denied admission, demand a refund. It is too late to resell the tickets. House manager Eddie Plohn is reported to have said at a conference with the committee that if the campaign was stopped, the discrimination may be scrapped as of next season. Committee rejected the idea, saying that tickets could be admitted then they should be allowed in the house now.

Understood, as many as 40 tickets are presented by Negroes nightly, and some shown have expressed the opinion that if accepted it would make little difference to the audience. Practice has been to refund on the tickets but such money is not deducted from the attraction's share of receipts, on the order of Marcus Helman, who operates the National.

There is a sign in the theatre lobby to the effect that tickets are not transferable and "sold subject to compliance with the known policy of the theatre." If presented by any person not conforming to the policy, admission will be refused and the ticket returned. Committee says it will go to the courts if refunds are not made... it would appear that our program of having interracial groups buy tickets and present them... too late for resale has had the economic effect intended.

Efforts of the committee did not effect the business of "Eagle Rhapsody" at the National last week. Tullulah Bankhead, who hails from Alabama and who is starting in the play, is quoted as being bitterly opposed to the exclusion of Negroes. As one of the committee's members, it was stated that groups turned away did get the money back on tickets calling for top-price locations on the orchestra floor.

STANDER'S 'MACBETH' GETS BROADWAY O.O.

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Editor Ross Defends Wolcott Gibbs After Gripe by Managers

For the first time the Broadway managers, collectively, have made a complaint against a drama critic. A telegram was sent by the League of New York Theatres to the New Yorker magazine that its reviewer, Wolcott Gibbs, of late hasn't appeared at first nights in proper condition to cover shows. Harold Ross, editor of the mag, responded by stating that the critic, concededly an able writer, had been getting "shots" to correct an allergy.

The message from the League was sent at a membership meeting, which adopted a proposal of Kermit Bloomgarden to make the protest. Manager, recently elected to the League's board, produced "An other Part of the Forest," by Lillian Hellman. League emphatically stated that the message to the New Yorker was sent prior to its publication of Gibbs' notice on "Forest," but the protest was not believed to have been reflected in the review.

Miss Hellman reportedly complained to the Dramatists Guild about certain critics, but no action is reported to have resulted. Dramatists felt that since the managers made the Gibbs complaint, the League might as well handle the matter.

Gibbs was indisposed recently and advised one showman that he would be unable to attend his premiere. Understood, that he usually writes his reviews immediately after seeing the performance. As for "Forest," he didn't like the play as well as Miss Hellman's "The Little Foxes," but had praised, Miss Hellman's other plays. Miss Hellman is said to have made a crack about Gibbs' "shots."

Year or so ago a verbal complaint from the League to the World-Telegram followed Burton Rascoe's notice in that daily on "Jacobowsky and the Colonel." The reviewer's ability was not questioned, but his attitude was made to what appeared to be an expression of personal animus on his part against Annabellus on one of the leads. Rascoe is not with the Telly now, bowing out when the editor refused to run his notice on the Old Vic players early last summer.

Several shows may be asked from the road because of high transportation costs. Resumption of train schedules due to lift of the coal strike has somewhat lightened the situation, however.

Shows that may be particularly affected are the routes of the Mississippi. Unless there is revision by the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Eastern railroads will increase the number of one-way first class tickets, for use of a special train, from 100 to 125, except for the Southern Pacific, which wants 150 tickets for the same privilege. Claimed that the cost of transportation of large companies may be upped as much as 25%.

Complaint has been made to ICC against rail lines for failure to resume all-year tourist-rates. Stated that because only 90-day round-trip tickets from Chicago and other gateway cities to the Coast, because of intermediate territory cannot be played because of excessive railroad rates. The Coast has had much of its year tourist rate in operation, and no explanation why it has not been lowered. The Coast has been stated, too, that there have been no special theatre rates since 1906. In addition to western cities this side of the Coast, nearer stands which are potentially good but which may be shipped because of rail costs include such cities as Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Memphis and New Orleans.

Major musicians may not play beyond Chicago and St. Louis except at heavy transportation costs. It is contended that the railroads on tour is "Carmen Jones," which is considered some stands. Present plan is to do Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, a repeat tour to the Coast being cancelled. Because of late arrivals, Carmel, booked at Madison, Wis., for two nights, was demanded to give two performances in one evening.

Demand for increased fares is figured out this way: present rate is 15c. per mile, or \$150 for 100 tickets and \$250 for 150 tickets. The per mile for 150 tickets would amount to \$450 for every mile traveled (capitalized). The railroads, however, it's possible that "Life With Father," now in Los Angeles, will gall of the railroads to change the transportation system being the factor.

Argued that the railroad should extend the tourist rate tickets to six months. Charged that three other routes on the road may not venture beyond the Mississippi.

In bookie circles, wasn't sure that some jumps could be made over the past weekend. Plans to travel to the crew from the orchestra pit, but wauke were made. Had the order to cut train schedules 50% because of the effects of the coal strike, there is little doubt a number of shows would have been forced to cancel some dates and return to N.Y.

'RAINBOW' STAGEHAND ROW STRAIGHTENED OUT

What is explained as a jurisdictional dispute backfired at the Branger, Philadelphia, last week ended in a crew from the orchestra pit, "new musical which was sent there for final preparation prior to its debut Tuesday (10).

Stagehands objected to the presence on stage of an aide to, Jo Meitzner, the scenic designer. Matter was straightened out only after the designer agreed to the union's demand that he give any directions to the crew from the orchestra pit or any place the other side of the footlights.

Deckhands are sticklers for their rules, which stipulate that only a member of the crew shall handle any part of the scenery, dress props, but sometimes in emergencies make minor adjustments without objection. It appears that a run-in between stagehands and orchestra pit another show occurred in New Haven, and when the crew ordered them out of the stage, the pit he'd select some other stand to try out his shows. Local complained to the parent union, International Association of Theatrical Stage Employees. Result was that all locals were instructed to enforce the rule prohibiting non-but deckhands in handling anything in connection with a production.

TREASURERS CLUB SRO \$3,700 ON 'YESTERDAY'

Treasurers Club, composed of Broadway boxoffice men and some out-of-town ticket sellers, held its annual benefit at the Lyceum, N. Y., Sunday (8), the show drew an extra performance of "Born Yesterday" and drew a capacity, and with the top at 16 taking over \$3,700. Performers were compensated, as they have been in the Lyceum's employment, but there was a share of the receipts, nor royalties, through the courtesy of Marcus Helman. Max Gordon and Gabe Kaplan. Souvenir booklet contained \$15,000 in advertising, a new high in the Lyceum's record. The booklet was compiled by Allen Schnobe, former president of the club, who has handled the ad chore for years.



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VOL. 165 No. 2

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1946

PRICE 25 CENTS

ALCOHOLIC CROPS - FIVE FIVE FIVE

Broadway Brokers Not Too Hopeful Of Big Business on New Year's Eve

In other times New Year's eve was something of a bonanza for Broadway theatres and ticket agencies but the finale performance of 1946 isn't viewed hopefully by the brokers. One skeptic regards the eve akin to "another Monday night." Tickets for that performance are not returnable except in very few instances despite the legit code. That wrinkle in the regulations never has been explained. The code was adopted to eliminate "boys," regarded as the reason or excuse for overcharges, but if agencies stand up for the eve they stand a chance of being stuck with tickets tilted for the occasion.

The few houses that have allotted eve tickets on consignment to the agencies have placed a deadline of Dec. 27 for returns; otherwise they must be paid for.

High boxoffice prices probably explain the slow New Year's Eve sale, backed by reports from stores that patrons are ducking high-priced.

(Continued on page 62)

Standby Band Hasn't Played in 5 Mos., Gets 15% Salary Increase

Chicago, Dec. 17.

James C. Petrillo in his newest drive for wage increases for musicians in theatres got one for an orchestra which hasn't struck a note in over five months. Band that currently isn't working, yet got a raise, is at the Civic theatre here, which now shows the picture "Henry V." The Civic, which has been housing stage attractions up to this time, formerly had a house orchestra of six. When "Henry" came in, the orchestra was upped to eight. All musicians are on half pay while on standby and last week the group got 15% hike.

United Artists Co., which rented theatre for "Henry V.," kicks in \$563 each week for not one note of music.

LAG WOULD DONATE AIR COIN TO MRS. VALENTINE

When Lewis J. Valentine, former New York police commissioner, died Monday (16), his old friend, actor Mayor Florentino H. LaGuardia, offered immediately to do Valentine's radio show—with pay—to Valentine's entirely to the widow. Valentine was emcee of the "Gangbusters" nights at the ABC network, Saturday nights at 6. LaGuardia originally promised Valentine to the top police job.

Waterman Pen Co., sponsor of "Gangbusters" show, was as well as net and agency handling agency, Radio Consultants, Inc., were considering the LaGuardia offer and, meanwhile, had asked for next Saturday night (21) a show eulogizing Valentine as an outstanding law enforcement officer.

One angle on the LaGuardia offer is that he himself is going off the ABC Wednesday night commentary show Christmas night.

CROSBY ALONE B.O. LINE

By GEORGE ROSEN

CIC Transits
Exploiting the "cros-purposes which are amusing American counter-intelligence policy, the U. S. Counter-Intelligence Corps, known as the CIC, has been nicknamed by European overseas troops as Cripes 'n' Con-
Little lessons on how to win a war and lose the peace.

Pix Admissions To Stay Up For Another Year

Boxoffice admission prices, which reached an unprecedented high in 1946 to aid materially in the equally-high film earnings, are expected to continue at the same level during 1947, a survey of top industry sales execs reveals. Opinion is based on optimism that business will continue to be good next year.

With production costs mounting steadily and forcing hyped film rentals, there can't possibly be any cut in admission prices, according to the sales manager of one of the majors. History of the industry reveals, he said, that the only time boxoffice prices come down is during a general depression, and even then they always follow a cut in the price of other commodities by a general price fall. Leading economists, he pointed out, have predicted a period of prosperity for the next 12 months, so that any backtracking in admission prices is out of the question.

Another sales manager pointed out that entertainment was the same as any commodity in an inflationary area and that, as long as costs on all sides remain high, admission prices can be expected to help to (Continued on page 71)

Niteries Who Rhumba Mamas With Sitters

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.

What do baby-sitters have to do with the will in night club business? Plenty, according to the Brothers Palumbo, Frank and Walter, operators of several of this city's niteries. Putting their heads together on the problem of last-minute cancellations for their spots, the Palumbos boys came up with the answer—baby sitters.

The boys simply tell the customers, in effect, "Don't worry about the baby folk. If you can't get a sitter, we can."

They can, and do. They advertise for sitters in daily newspapers at a price which has been established quite a list of reliable ones.

These are troublesome days for radio's top coin singing shows.

Bankrollers with a \$1,000,000 and more annual time-and talent investment in half-hour shows on the major wave have come to the realization during the current broadcasting season that the Bing Crosby Saga has never been duplicated and that, with the lone exception of the Groucho, virtually the whole crop shows sparked by singing stars are overpriced far beyond the rating payoff and dollars-and-cents returns.

This new attitude of sponsors that the vocal artists' current earnings far exceed their audience ceiling, is pretty much reflected right down the line. Ford Motor concedes that it's finding it out the hard way via the \$16,000 weekly Dinah Shore program, which Dinah has been a (Continued on page 71)

N.Y. Mayor Nixed in Bid for \$20kc

Washington, Dec. 17.

New York's Mayor William O'Dwyer, department store execs Jerome and Nathan Ohrbach, Broadway angel Howard Cullman, and Donald Flann, former licensee of WMCA, lost out in their race for new AM walters in Manhattan last Friday (13) when FCC awarded the 620kc channel instead to the Newark Broadcasting Corp. and let existing stations (WABC and WCAJ) in Syracuse and Burlington hike their power on that wavelength.

The Ohrbachs, Cullman and O'Dwyer were teamed up in the (Continued on page 69)

Simultaneous Gridcast Of Radio-Te by Wismer

Washington, Dec. 17.

Football will get its first simultaneous radio-television broadcast by the same announcer next season when Harry Wismer, director of sports for the American Broadcasting Co., will handle the Washington Redskins pro games from the national capital.

Wismer will narrate the radio aspect on WMAL, ABC affiliate there, while television broadcast by the same announcer next season when Harry Wismer, director of sports for the American Broadcasting Co., will handle the Washington Redskins pro games from the national capital.

ABC this season has been using Philco's video station in Philadelphia, WPZL, to broadcast, simultaneously, AM (WFL) and television of the Philadelphia Rockets games in the American Professional Hockey League.

U.S. Exhibs Scored by Jarratt, Korda Aide, for Shunning British Product

'Variety' Prestime

With both holidays falling on Wednesday, next week's issue of VARIETY, Dec. 23, and the one after that, Jan. 1, will be circulated without cover, that is, on Tuesday.

This means VARIETY's usual Tuesday deadline will be advanced to Monday, just for these two regular weekly editions.

South America Seen Good Mkt. For U.S. Talent

The possibilities of South America as a theatrical market haven't begun to be explored, according to Jules Stein, Music Corp. of America chief, who returned recently from an extensive tour of the continent. In fact, Stein considers South America so vital a market, that he's considering opening an office in Buenos Aires.

Stein declared that a complete job of pioneering will have to be done, but those successful in that venture will find huge rewards. While Argentina impressed him as the greatest market, showmen attempting to create a market in that country will have to start at scratch, inasmuch as there are no showcases in that country as yet. However, Stein stated a modern hotel built in Buenos Aires, an entertainment room would make the other hotels in that country second class.

Such a hotel, he said, is currently being considered by a group which includes Lucius Boomer, managing director of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, N. Y. Once such a project was completed, other hotel corporations would have to follow suit, and then B.A. would be buying American talent on a regular-basis. Stein didn't think that the current political difficulties in that country would provide a barrier. He was confident that they would be straightened out eventually. Boomer, Stein declared, has already had the opportunity of viewing (Continued on page 63)

Paul Robeson's \$141,294 In '46 a Solo Concert Mark

Paul Robeson has grossed \$141,294 for his concert work in the year of 1946 (exclusive of record royalties), to break his former record on concert earnings. Figure represents one of top earnings in the music biz for strictly concert "takes."

Singer will concertize through next spring, do two or three summer tours, and then take a sabbatical from concertizing until 1948. He's considering a couple of legit offers for the year in between.

London, Dec. 17. Hollywood's magnates have been shouting their praises of British pix but the plain truth is that the films, themselves, are not getting anything near the proper distribution in the U. S., according to Sir Arthur Jarratt, associate of Sir Alexander Korda and managing director of British Lion Films. Jarratt, returning from America this week, asserted that major theatre chains are not booking the pictures all over the U. S. as they do their own productions.

Only film so far to have been widely seen in the U. S. is "The Seventh Veil," which everybody liked, Jarratt continued. "Gone with the Wind" is making the rounds but not on a large scale. Hollywood has predicted that Sir Arthur Rank's epic costing 1,300,000 pounds, will lose 750,000 pounds when the smoke has cleared, he added. "Henry V." is doing very well in small, specialized theatres as is "Brief Encounter"—but neither is getting top booking.

This much can be said for American audiences, Jarratt conceded, "that so far we are still not making the right kind of film for America. Our stars must learn to speak more (Continued on page 59)

Thrill' Stuff in Films And Via Warns For Kiddies, RNs Church

Chicago, Dec. 17.

Warning parents to keep their youngsters away from entertainment considered not wholesome, the Catholic Church last week dealt a face-slapping to radio and films. Cardinal Samuel A. Stritch, of Chicago, told a group of mothers and fathers at a National convention that much of what their children are hearing and seeing today is far from beneficial and could be harmful to parental objections to radio stations and sponsors.

The cardinal referred to some (Continued on page 62)

20TH-FOX TO PRODUCE PRO-HOLLYWOOD FILM

Twentieth-Fox is currently considering a picture to offset the bad things said about Hollywood by gossip columnists during the last several years. Based on a novel, "What Y'ks Know For Sure?" penned by Len Zelig, the former writer Sh. Danks and various clips, the film will deal with the troubles of a showbiz indie who makes his attempt to make a "good" honest film. It's reportedly a switch on the "What Makes Sammy Run?" theme.

Company optioned the book when it was a book. Zelig, however, the author, who then wrote it during a tour of duty in Italy with the Army, Zeligberg received a \$1500 soldier fellowship at the time, with 20th getting the book for a period of (Continued on page 71)

Selznick Plans to Set Releasing This Week: JA Setting Legal Rep

EXPLAINS 64% OF 46 RECORD GAIN

RKO's Dore Scharf Deal Depends On His Getting 100% Prod. Control

David O. Selznick's forces yesterday (Tuesday) were fighting a bitter battle with three film companies for physical distribution of the product of the new Selznick Releasing Organization. It was anticipated that an arrangement would be sewed up by the end of this week or early next week.

With such subsidiary organizations as RKO Federal and United Artists being eliminated as possibilities for handling SRO prints, and direct deal-making states-rights would be considered, Selznicks were concentrating on getting a deal from among the eight major and three minor companies which have nationwide releasing facilities. There would be no great surprise with the trade if Selznick came up with a deal with a company such as Metro, with some sort of combination part sales arrangement.

On other fronts, meantime, things were pretty much the same. Some lawyers and execs on both coasts masterminded the next steps as result of the action of United Artists' board last week in deciding to move legally toward owning and distributing via the company.

Masterminding

In Hollywood, Selznick, Neil A. New, his distribution chief, who'll be proxy of SRO, and O. Scharf, who'll be chairman of the board, were plotting their moves. They had been delayed by O. Scharf's absence last Monday (Dec. 16) when he was in Rochester, Minn. Plans are expected to be completed by tonight (Wednesday) with the signing of a deal with New York tomorrow to carry through on building up the new distribution organization Selznick announced last Wednesday.

In New York, the law firm of John W. Davis, Inc., is working with Gardner & Reed—has agreed to consider representing UA in the suit to file the film on Selznick's behalf. Davis told a committee of the board who called on him last week that his firm's commitments do not prevent him from accepting the case, but he is now giving consideration to UA's legal position. If he feels it is (Continued on page 31)

'Chris Blake' and 'Joan' (With Ingrid a Must)

Hot 'H' Movie Interest

Moos Hart's "Christopher Blake" and the Ingrid Bergman starrer, "Joan of Lorraine," are receiving top attention from the studios, according to screen rights to legions. Warner Bros., "Universal-International" and 20th-Fox are among the contenders for the Hart play, while virtually all of the majors have been in the running for the Bergman Catch with "Joan" is that no studio wants the play unless it can get Miss Bergman. But she's not ready to commit herself to any stage role in the film. It's understood she's not adverse to that, but will not commit herself to any stage role in the film. It's understood she's not adverse to that, but will not commit herself to any stage role in the film. It's understood she's not adverse to that, but will not commit herself to any stage role in the film.

H Word Key Newsies Ready 'Co-op' Awards

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Golden Apple Awards will be handed out by the Hollywood Women's Press Club at a dinner given at the Hollywood Athletic Club, Dec. 23.

The awards have been mailed to members to determine the most cooperative and most uncooperative stars, male and female, in the film industry.

Clarence Crawford and Gregory Peck were awarded the Golden Apple for 1946, with Greer Garson and Fred Crawford on the other end. Miss Crawford and Peck are leaders in candidates for cooperation this year, while Anne Hays, Joan Fontaine, Dana Andrews and Glenn Ford are runners-up. Mentioned as non-co-operators are Ingrid Bergman, Betty Grable, Bette Rogers, Katharine Hepburn, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Charles Boyer.

Jacob Wink Eastern production head of Warner Bros. complains that there is "No Organized System to Develop New Talent for Pix, Radio or Legit"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming 41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

MPA '47 Budget At \$1,100,000

Budget for 1947 of the Motion Picture Assn., approved at the meeting of the board in Washington last week, calls for total expenditure of \$1,100,000. That's about \$15,000 more than the budget for the current year. It does not include the cost of operation of the MPA's Coast branch, the Motion Picture Producers' Assn., under which Joe Breen's production Code administration falls. MPPA has its own budget.

Fiscal support okayed by the directorate, consisting of twenty of seven major companies (as but United Artists, which is not a member), includes allowances for just about the same activities in the past. There were merely a few minor shifts in allocations.

Industry publicity which got an important bit in coin allotted it is the statistical research department. It was handed \$15,000—about twice what it got in 1946. That's a reflection of proxy Eric Johnston's statement last year that the motion picture industry knows less about itself than any other major industry in the country. MPA now has surveys in progress on both domestic and international front.

Johnston was in New York Monday for the Motion Picture Export Assn. convention and then headed for his home in Spokane, Wash., to spend the holidays. He'll make a series of speeches in that area. He'll go from there to Hollywood about Jan. 2 to spend two weeks in the city. Net result is that he'll be returning to his headquarters in Washington, D. C.

MAYER VICE MILLIKEN AS MPA FOREIGN CHIEF

Gerald M. Mayer, becomes managing director of the International Division of the Motion Picture Assn. on Jan. 1, 1947, as revealed in N. Y. yesterday (Tues.). Carl Milliken will relinquish his duties with studio heads before returning to his headquarters in Washington, but will continue as secretary of MPA and devote most of his time to foreign film distribution and audio-visual aid for schools for the association. Milliken has been with MPA 21 years next Jan. 1.

This change in MPA's International Division is confirmation of the industry's story about months ago when Eric Johnston, MPA proxy, revealed that Milliken was stepping down as foreign chief. Johnston's line with Johnston's policy of getting younger men in active posts of the association.

Mayer leaves for Hollywood on Dec. 27 to meet studio heads and discuss the new international situation with them. This is preparatory to going to Europe with Johnston in January.

Mayer, who was associate director of the International Division, was with the MPA about six months. He recently returned from a brief trip overseas with Johnston.

Prime promoter of the meteoric rise in film company earnings for 1946 has been the repeal of the Federal excess profits tax. With seven majors (all except United Artists) scoring a grand-slam gain of \$55,000,000 over last year's record \$65,000,000 64% of that sum, an estimated \$35,000,000, was the Big Seven's savings from Congressional action which eased the tax at the outset of the year, analysis by Variety discloses.

The \$30,000,000 balance for the year of unprecedented earnings are attributable to three factors. First, a 10% increase in box office sales from an average of 42% per patron to 46%; second, a boost in foreign business, estimated between 10 and 15%; and third, a hike in actual patronage at the theatres.

However, the question of what has accounted for the almost 100% in returns to the company during the year, the breakdown indicates that, because of tax repeal, net would have advanced 50% without the tax. The more money was for the year. Savings were whittled somewhat by fact that companies filed consolidated tax returns during the year, thus combining excess tax with regular 40% income tax bite.

(Continued on page 70)

Metro Bikes Same Print To 3 Chinese First Runs; Sets New U.S. Pic Mark

Metro has just broken the record for earnings of any American film in China—through the novel expedient of bicycling a single print into the country between two different theatres in Canton to give the picture a first run in three houses simultaneously.

Film was "Bathing Beauty," which grossed \$15,000,000 (Chinese) on its opening run. The picture was shown in China—through the novel expedient of bicycling a single print into the country between two different theatres in Canton to give the picture a first run in three houses simultaneously.

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Eric Johnston (President, Motion Picture Assn. of America) believes that "U. S. Films, a World Target Today, Nonetheless Welcome Competition"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming 41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Truman Shakeup Of Pic-Air Media

Washington, Dec. 17. Government relations with the film and radio industries were shifted last week into a restructured Office of Government Reports, as the President shook up several of the remaining war agencies, merging them into an Office of Temporary Controls.

Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction was one of the several thrown into catch-all OTCC, but in this was done Mr. Truman removed the film and radio functions, blew new life into OGR, and parked the media units there. OGR was a permanent White House adjunct which was wiped out in 1943 and its functions transferred to the Office of War Information.

Arch Mercey, head of the former Motion Picture Division, Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction, explained that there was no weakening of the division as the official liaison between the Government departments and the industry.

"The functions and problems of the Motion Picture Division," he said, "will remain exactly the same as they were outlined during the recent (Continued on page 29)

National Boxoffice Survey Biz Hit By Seasonal Trend—'Woman,' 'Skies,' 'Clouds,' 'Undercurrent,' 'Edge' The Big Five

Usual pre-Christmas slump this week is being accelerated by snow and colder weather in several key cities. Net result is that the dragging bottom at many theatres, "Strange Woman" (UA) is edging into the red as top grosser in its lack-luster session with "Blue Skies" (Par), now mainly dependent on a close second.

Others in the top big-money five are "The Clouds Roll By" (MG), "Undercurrent" (O-I) and "Roxie" (Edge) (20th). "Edge" and "Clouds" are in this class straitened by their N. Y. playmates. The others in the Big 10 are "Dark Mirror" (U), "Never Say Goodbye" (WB), "Nocturne" (MG), "Dancing Clementine" (20th) and "Verdict" (WB).

Veteran film writer-producer Alfred Cohn recalls

"When Hollywood Was Young"

highlighting some memorable anecdotes of silent days in the forthcoming 41st Anniversary Edition of VARIETY

Whether complete powers over RKO production are to be handed to Dore Scharf was the subject of the RKO board meeting in New York Monday (16). Heated by N. Peter Rathvon, proxy and studio head, RKO has been making a pitch for a month or more to lasso his proxy, who doesn't want to make the move from his present tieup with David O. Selznick. Rathvon, however, has assured he'll have no interference with his powers at the RKO studio. Rathvon, on the other hand, it is understood, is reluctant to give up his supervisory role over RKO production. He has parlayed the duties of RKO studio head, proxy and board chairman since the death of production chief Charles Koerner last winter.

Scharf has 18 months to go on contract with Selznick. Latter has backed Scharf, but his big desire for full control at RKO, refusing to release him unless such power is given. Selznick, in turn, has offered compensation for the company for leaving up Scharf's pact. It's understood, however, that Scharf, a producer loans or some other such form of return.

In whole matter, was discussed at length at the RKO board huddle Monday, with Rathvon staying in New York the rest of the week to further talks on the subject. Pleasant plans call for him to leave for the studio on Friday (20).

Rathvon also attended the meeting of the Motion Picture Export Assn. in New York Monday. He was instrumental in devising the idea of an MPEA and considers it his "baby."

RADIO PHONES TO LINK STUDIO, LOCATION UNITS

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Pictorial Branch has been granted permission by Federal Communications Commission to construct several radio stations to serve as communications media between film studios and troupes on location. Service stations will be available to all picture companies after first of the year for the western.

Outfit, headed by G. J. Aitfish, will set up a central station in Los Angeles, two portable and four

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INDEX

Millon Berle	2
Billon	2
Chatter	71
Film Reviews	14
Foreign	14
George Frazier	58
Home Reviews	63
Inside Legit	64
Inside Pictures	31
Inside Radio	49
Legitimate	64
Literary	69
New Arts	62
New Club Reviews	60
Obituary	70
Orchestras	51
Pictures	3
Producers	3
Radio	38
Radio Reviews	44
Television	40
Vaudeville	59

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Exhibits' Idea of 'Losing Money'

Indicative of the feeling among top distribution execs regarding the current raft of complaints raised by exhibitors against high rental terms is expressed by a sales manager for one of the majors. "While an exhibitor complains that he's losing money today because he's spending too much for product," the sales manager said, "he means that he's probably making \$1,000 a week now instead of the \$5,000 a week he made last year. And he calls that 'losing money.'"

Exhibs have no right to kick if skyrocketing production costs force upward rentals on pictures, the sales chief said, because they haven't "as much investment in a picture as the producer or distributor." (Exhibs, of course, point to the investment in their theatres, their businesses, etc., in rebuttal.)

Capra Pic Into Globe, N.Y., Raises Comparison of Rentals With the M. H.

With opening of Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life" scheduled for the Globe, N.Y., Saturday (Dec. 14), the 300-seater on the Broadway circuit has been cited as a benchmark in terms of value in film rentals, prestige and advertising of a long-run picture in the city. The Broadway circuit, as against the giant Music Hall. While Harry Brant, operator of the Globe, maintains that "Life" will take out of his house considerably more in rentals than it would from the M. H., most distributors have no hesitancy in saying they'd prefer the big Rockefeller opening in any case.

Studio film, playing eight weeks at the Hall, can take out in rentals between \$300,000 and \$350,000. It can get a 30-week run at the Globe, Brant figures it will take out \$700,000 in film rentals. More conservative estimates put the 20-week run possible, with RKO, the distributors, getting about \$400,000 in that period.

While it thus appears feasible that a picture could earn more for itself in the 300-seater on the Broadway circuit than in the 6,000-seat Music Hall, distributors are not unmindful of the advertising value that the latter has in playing "The Showcase of the Nation" and say it may account in out-of-town (Continued on page 29)

SCHEINE LOSES AGAIN BEFORE SUPREME CT.

Washington, Dec. 17. The U.S. Supreme Court yesterday (16) refused to review the anti-trust conviction of the Schine, largest independent film circuit in the country. The Schine organization was found guilty of monopolizing exhibition in 120 towns in which its houses are located, by depriving competitors of first run and by other trade practices found in violation of the Sherman act.

The trial court is considering a reorganization plan for the Schine Corp., which has theatres in New York, Ohio, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. Case was set for a similar trial in the Crescent Theatre case which resulted in a permanent win of the way up and down the Supreme Court.

There was no comment here by Justice Department spokesmen. Schine's appeal for rehearing, but there is not much expectation in Washington that the Supreme Court will grant it.

Meanwhile, the Government is getting ready to file its appeal in the Griffith Theatre circuit suit, which it has lost in the lower court. The appeal document is now being prepared by the solicitor general and will be filed by next Monday, the court says. The Griffith theatres are located in the Schine circuit and most hopes to win in the Supreme is based on grounds that the situation is similar to the Schine and Crescent cases.

Mel Douglas Wins M-G Pact Windup in Court

Los Angeles, Dec. 17. Melvyn Douglas won a judgment, Termitt Termitt in Superior Court, ending his player contract on Dec. 14, 1947. Actor, who signed on Dec. 14, 1940, was upheld in his claim that seven years is the limit of a labor contract under the California law.

Mel declared he signed a waiver of his rights when he joined the Army and owed the studio three more years of service.

GRASS \$500,000 12,000 PICTURES

Advertising film distributors are winding up the year in a high tide of their industry after crowding nabe screens to the tune of a \$100,000 total take for '46. Business of publishing content, selling everything from \$5,000 tractors on a national basis to a stick of gum at the local candy store, climbed 40% in 1945 and an equal percentage during the current season. Things reached such a pass in '46 that one Iowa town, peeved over the rash of 300-second plugs for commercial products clogging the local screens, passed an ordinance barring them altogether.

Those exhibs going whole-hog for program of flicker plunging, and some 12,000 houses are open to offer themselves up to \$100,000 in extra charge for the year. That's if they handled an average of six theatricals and played each for the customary series of 26 weeks. In the main, theatres running the commercial briefs and subsequent nubes, but some first-runs are addicted to the habit including important circuits. Such as the Paramount-affiliated Butterfield and Nace chain, and the Griffith circuit.

Options are split over the feasibility of garnering added coin through the ad-pick. Distributors of these films contend "Some of the theatres think they're too toxic poison and won't touch them with the proverbial pole, one exec said. On the other hand, there's lots more who have their patrons used to the idea and long to buy by playing them while picking up some fancy extra cash.

The Iowa incident occurred because of poor customer service. The man won't let a theatre play more than four advertising films at a time.

Exhibs are paid off on an estimate (Continued on page 29)

Jack Warner From Abroad Says WB Plans More 16m

Hollywood, Dec. 17. In a broadcast slated to be carried tomorrow (Wednesday) from Radio City, Jack Warner will inform representatives of the Radio City casting system how the Warners studio has plans for heavy expansion of 16m films, both in production and distribution.

Picked up by New York's WOR via shortwave and platted for release on the Coast, the five-minute interview states the narrow-gauge films will be distributed on a world-wide basis but that standard 35mm production by Warners will be continued. The 16m films will be shown on platters, arranged for by the French Cinema Service, which is being planned in New York.

Par Putting Excess Cash Back Into Common Stock Acquisitions

In a move to further solidify its financial position and put excess cash, garnered in its banner year, to work for the company, Par is picking up substantial blocks of its own common stock. Gunning the new fiscal 1947 policy in the latter part of November, the company has already purchased an estimated \$1,300,000 in acquiring some 40,000 shares of common on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock has been bought within the range of 31-34 cents, with 27,700 shares bought at 31 cents, the balance during the first two weeks of the current month.

Par's move is picking up on the heels of a similar move by prexy Barney Balaban in a report to the stockholders several months ago. Balaban at that time said the company would follow a highly flexible program as to time and price of the stock. Par's buying policy is evidence in the matter of accelerated turnover of company's common in the past month. Stock

UA Indies Moving Into MPEA; Maas Pacts Polish Deal for U.S. Films

James J. Geller

satirizes a Hollywood story conference

in

"Let's Be Original"

an editorial device of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

'Abie' Getting Top Dates Despite Some Protests; 9 Minor Cuts Made

Although some of the homeoffice execs of both Paramount and Warner Bros. have expressed opposition to their circuits' playing "Abie's Irish Rose" (UA), no official word has gone out forbidding bookings in the companies' theatres. It has been learned. Widespread squawks against staged racial caricatures in the film have, as a matter of fact, had little influence on bookings to date, particularly in small towns.

Survey on contracts obtained by United Artists for the Bing Crosby production, which is expected to be made coming in rather rapidly for the amount of time the sales force has been peddling "Abie," the deals are on very favorable terms. Virtually all are at top figures—35% to 40%—and call for preferred playing time. Many also provide minimum guarantee to the producer.

Paramount's affiliate, the Wilby-Kinney circuit operating a large chain in the south, has booked "Abie" for virtually all of its houses. Picked up on Broadway at the end of this week.

In response to beefs against treatment of Jews and Catholics in the film, some cuts were made during the past week. Most of them were said to be minor, eliminating words and phrases to which objection has been raised because they accentuated racial characteristics.

Blat by Benjie Berger, of Minneapolis, head of North Central Allied, last week, drew a sharp report from Grad Sears, UA distribution chief. He called Berger's complaints "unfounded, reckless and ill-advised" and placed minor instructions as to how the film should be handled.

He has been advised to be indecisive (Continued on page 29)

Two major developments were revealed at the meeting of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association, headed by Eric Johnston, in New York, Monday (16). They are:

1. Virtually all of United Artists' producers have agreed to come into the MPEA—some with minor reservations—and UA will function abroad as a board member of the association. 2. U. S. pictures will shortly be going into Poland. An agreement has been reached with the Polish government for a limited number of imports annually, similar to the arrangements now in force in Czechoslovakia.

Johnston, who is proxy of the MPEA as well as the Motion Picture Assn., also reported his findings on his recent London trip for the benefit of the MPEA execs, who included the heads of the major foreign departments of most of the eight-member MPEA companies. As he did at the MPEA board meeting last week, Johnston emphasized the necessity of giving British pic every possible break in playing time and length in this country to head off greater restrictions on U. S. films by the English over the present quota law expires in March, 1948.

Harry Buckley, UA secretary, reported on success of the company's (Continued on page 29)

WB, LeRoy TIFF ENDS 'FOUNTAINHEAD' DEAL

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Deal between Mervyn Le Roy and Warner Bros. for the production of "Fountainhead" was called off after an explosive conference in which the studio and producer squared their accounts.

Pact was made several years ago when Le Roy organized Arrowhead Productions while still on the Warner staff. He had created one picture, "Without Reservations," (Lease L. Lasky, Meanwhile, he signed a deal with Le Roy, partly because of space shortage at RKO, and the Seiznick production, "Little Women," another deal that fell through.

A conference with Harry M. Warner, then production chief of "Fountainhead" last week led to a blowup over "personal and family affairs." Warner says Le Roy drew an advance of around \$45,000 on the deal.

Pressburger's 3 Months' O.O.; Goldwyn's Quicker

Hollywood producer Arnold Pressburger left New York on the Queen Elizabeth Saturday (16) for three months in England, France and Italy. In Italy he'll search for locations for shooting of "The Sign of the Cross." He'll also see Maughan's "Then and Now," his next picture, while in England and France he'll be building up contacts. He produced, before the war, in both countries.

The Elizabeth was Samuel Goldwyn's ship. Pressburger was sent to London to spend Christmas with Sam Jr., now side to British producer Sydney Box. They'll be back on the return trip of the Elizabeth at the end of this month.

Pressburger's trip was scheduled Ben Goetz, Metro's British chief, and Vincent Korda, associated as a director with his brother, Sir Alexander Korda.

P-T Sheds Six Films For '47 Par Release

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Six features will be produced by P-T-News in 1947 for Paramount Pictures. The first, "The Sign of the Cross," will be produced by Ben Goetz, Metro's British chief, and Vincent Korda, associated as a director with his brother, Sir Alexander Korda.

Completed and ready for release are "Big Town," "I Cover Big Town," "Danger Street," "Seven Years Swag," "The Sign of the Cross," "Jungle Flight" and the high-budgeted, "Adventure Island."



Get ready for great shows – *and lots of them!*

You can make that "Paramount" permanent...because we've opened the flood-gates of a reservoir of brilliant product, with enough fine releases to keep first-run marquees dazzling with great names and titles every day for the next five months...

FOR DATES RIGHT NOW...

"TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST"

All engagements, from New York to San Francisco, have records lashed to "The Mast"! Variety reports it the industry's top-grossing hit! And week after week, Boxoffice's nationwide survey has shown that it's topping everything... everywhere!



STARRING
Alan Ladd · Brian Donlevy
William Bendix · Barry Fitzgerald

with HOWARD DA SILVA · ESTHER FERNANDEZ · ALBERT DEKKER
LUIS VAN ROOTEN · DARRYL HICKMAN

Directed by JOHN FARROW

Produced by Seton I. Miller · Screen Play by Seton I. Miller and George Bruce · Based on the Novel by Richard Henry Dana, Jr.



Bing Crosby
Fred Astaire
Joan Caulfield

with
BILLY DE WOLFE
OLGA SAN JUAN
Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin



FOR MERRY CHRISTMAS HIGHS...

Irving Berlin's "BLUE SKIES" In Technicolor

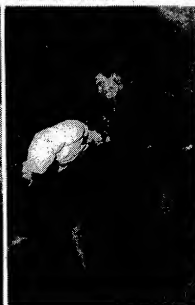
32 Berlin songs—and Bing sings 16! Last chance to see Fred dance! First dates all-topping, all-terrific! All-time record-holder, Paramount, N. Y. C.! It's the nation's sensation of sensations! And for any boxoffice, the nearest thing to heaven in '47!

Directed by STUART HEISLER · Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman · Adaptation by Allen Scott

TO START
THE NEW YEAR BRIGHT...

"Cross My Heart"

Betty's first all-out comedy since "Here Come The Waves"! She sings 3 top-popularity songs in this story of a girl who can't tell the truth to save her life! A fast musical, a thrilling mystery, a howling comedy—all in one and it's all wonderful!



starring
Betty Hutton
and
Sonny Tufts
with
MICHAEL CHEKHOV
(and "Spillane")
RUTH DONNELLY
HOWARD FREEMAN
RHYS WILLIAMS
Directed by **JOHN BERRY**

Produced by Harry Tugend • Screen Play by Harry Tugend and Claude Binyon • Based on a Play by Louis Verneuil and Georges Berr

starring
Loretta Young and David Niven
with
EDDIE ALBERT
CHARLES RUGGLES
VIRGINIA FIELD
RITA JOHNSON
ZASU PITTS



FOR THAT FINE JANUARY TIME...

Hal Wallis' Production
"The Perfect Marriage"

Esquire says: "Comes pretty close to being the perfect comedy!" Life described its captivating 10-year honeymoon in a full-color feature, read by 20 million! When its romantic stars run around in triangles, it's all top box-office fun!

Directed by LEWIS ALLEN • Screen Play by Leonard Spigelgass

FOR LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY
CROWDS...

"Ladies' Man"

Eddie's a rich oil king and how the gals go for him—and his million bucks! A Bracken musical that'll be good news to Eddie's 20,000,000 radio listeners! Good news too for Spike Jones' millions of juke box fans as he plays their favorite numbers!



starring
Eddie Bracken
Cass Daley
Virginia Welles
and **Spike Jones**
and His City Slickers
with
JOHNNY COY
VIRGINIA FIELD

Produced by DANIEL DARE • Directed by WILLIAM D. RUSSELL • Screen Play by Edmund Beloin, Jack Rose and Lewis Meltzer



FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
LINES...

CALIFORNIA

In Technicolor

starring
Ray Milland
Barbara Stanwyck
Barry Fitzgerald
with
GEORGE COULOURIS • ALBERT DEKKER
ANTHONY QUINN • FRANK FAYLEN
A JOHN FARROW Production



In the big-money pattern of "Blue Skies" and "Two Years Before The Mast"! Important new treatment techniques to make it the ultimately great Picture-of-the-West you knew some day would be made! A huge cast of 5,500—in 27 panoramic settings!

Produced by Seton I. Miller • Directed by JOHN FARROW • Screen Play by Frank Butler and Theodore Strauss

FOR EARLY MARCH DATES...

"EASY COME, EASY GO"

Sonny's crazy over Diana — and Barry's crazy over horses...the ones that come in last! Here's hilarious laughter, directed by the man who made "Two Years Before The Mast." With Barry actually delivering more laughs than in "Going My Way"!



Barry Fitzgerald
Diana Lynn
Sonny Tufts

STORY BY DICK FORAN • FRANK McHUGH
ALLEN JENKINS • JOHN LITTEL
ARTHUR SHIELDS • FRANK FAYLEN

Produced by Kenneth MacGowan
Directed by JOHN FARROW



Screen Play by Francis Edward Faragoh, John McNulty and Anne Froelich • Based on sketches by John McNulty



A MITCHELL LEISEN
Production
starring
Paulette Goddard
and
Fred MacMurray

STORY BY MACDONALD CAREY
ARLEEN WHELAN
Produced by CLAUDE BINYON
Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN

FOR A
RECORD-BLOOMING SPRING...

"Suddenly It's Spring"

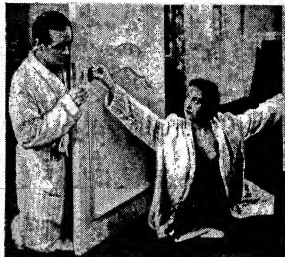
A spring-feverish love-fest! When Fred meets Paulette, lovelier than in "Kitty"—and Macdonald Carey, in his first postwar role and gorgeous Arleen Whelan tangle in a marital quadrangle that's balmy with comedy and sunny with romance!

Screen Play by Claude Binyon and P. J. Wolfson • Original Story by P. J. Wolfson

FOR A GLORIOUS
BOX OFFICE EASTER...

"My Favorite Brunette"

The gross-topping, successor to "Beaucaire"! It's the funniest Hope picture—all the way back to "My Favorite Blonde"! As an international detective, Bob starts laughs heard 'round the world. And Dotty's the spy he loves to eye!



starring
Bob Hope
and
Dorothy Lamour

with
PETER LORRE
LON CHANEY, Jr.

Produced by DANIEL DARE
Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT



Screen Play by Edmund Beloin and Jack Rose • A Paramount Release

starring
Ray Milland and **Teresa Wright**
with
SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE
VIRGINIA FIELD
REGINALD OWEN
ANTHONY QUINN
MELVILLE COOPER
Directed by LEWIS ALLEN



FOR POST-EASTER PROFITS...

"The Imperfect Lady"

Season's most exciting star team! Ray Milland, winner of the Grand Prix International for world's best performance, now in his first great love story in years! Plus Teresa Wright at her peak in what is bound to be the best year of her life!



Produced by KARL TUNBERG • Screen Play by Karl Tunberg

These 10 Great Attractions In The Next 4 Months

are eloquent evidence that there will be no quality or quantity letdown from Paramount's industry-pacing standards of the past year.

They are a factual demonstration that this company is prepared with enough—and great enough—product to maintain the preeminence that has made Paramount not only the talk of the trade, but the wonder of America's industrial and financial world.

Yet these are but the forerunners of a year's program so rich in box-office values that again in 1947, for the fourth successive season, the verdict of the show world must be.....

Paramount

IS AMERICA'S LEADING MOTION PICTURE COMPANY



A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW Y



THE RAZORS EDGE • 13 RUE MADELEINE

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM in Technicolor

BOOM!

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY • THE HOMESTRETCH in Technicolor

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW in Tec

BOB, SON OF BATTLE in Technicolor • FOREVER AMBER in Technicolor

SCUDDA HOO! SCUDDA HAY!

EAR FOR EVERY HOUSE IN THE LAND



RANG • CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA in Technicolor

in Technicolor

in Technicolor

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE in Technicolor



Wonderful!

Wonderful!

LIBERTY FILMS INC.

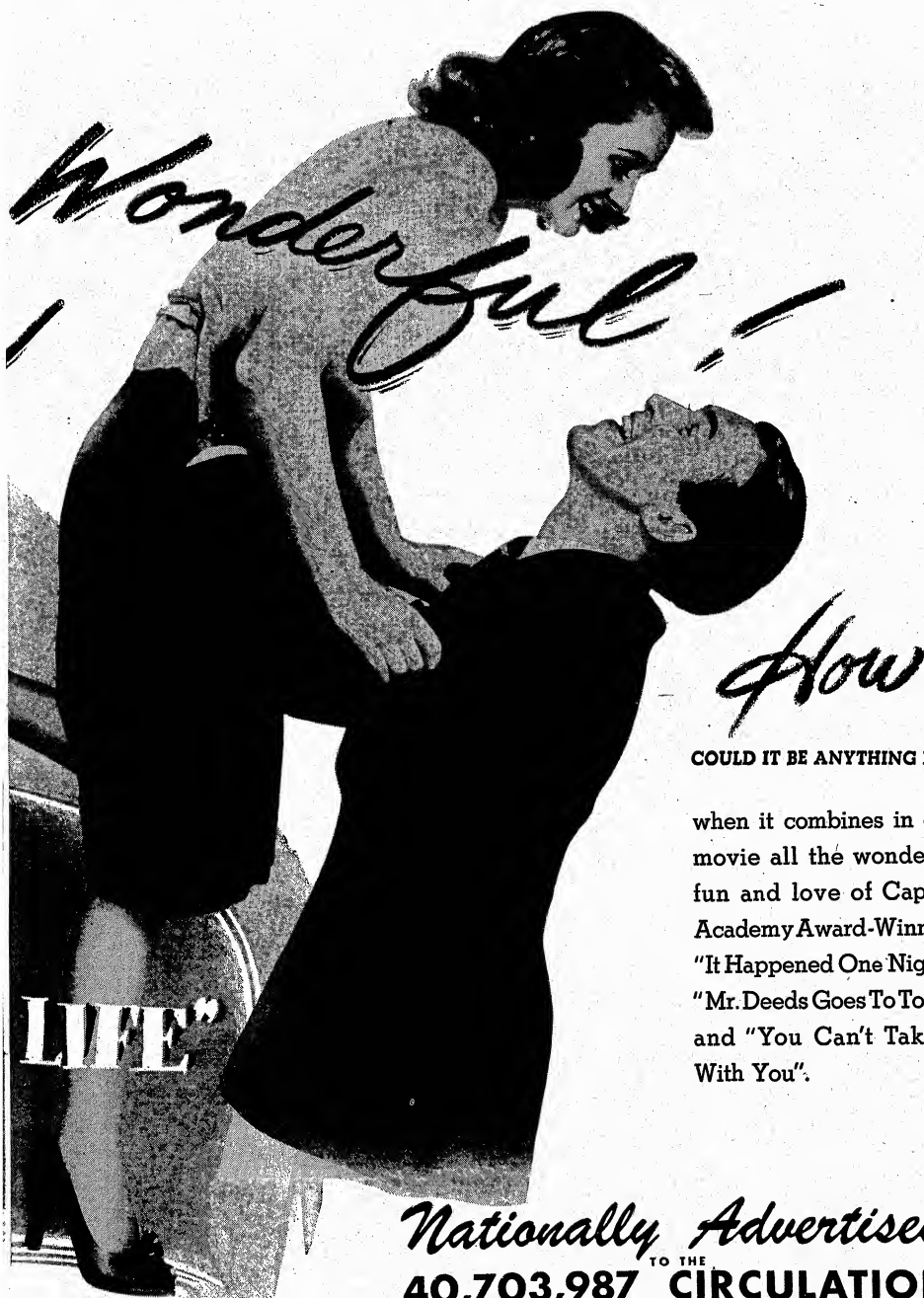
Presents



FRANK CAPRA'S
"IT'S A WONDERFUL
starring JAMES STEWART
and DONNA REED

WITH
LIONEL BARRYMORE • THOMAS MITCHELL • HENRY TRAVERS
and BEULAH BONDI • WARD BOND • FRANK FAYLEN • GLORIA GRAHAME PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY FRANK CAPRA

Screen Play by Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett and Frank Capra • Additional Scenes by Jo Swerling • From a story by Philip Van Doren Stern



COULD IT BE ANYTHING ELSE—

when it combines in one movie all the wonderful fun and love of Capra's Academy Award-Winning "It Happened One Night"—"Mr. Deeds Goes To Town" and "You Can't Take It With You".

Nationally Advertised
TO THE
40,703,987 CIRCULATION
Of Life—Look—Collier's—Good Housekeeping—Saturday
Evening Post—Seventeen—True Story—Woman's Home
Companion—Time—the Fan list and The American Weekly.

Released by

RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

Army Turns Over Odd Austrian Setup To MPEA Jan. 1; U.S. Pix Due in Year

By JOSEF ISRAELS II

Vienna, Dec. 9. — U.S. Army's Information Service Branch step out of distribution set in Austria Jan. 1 in favor of Motion Picture Executive Agency. It was decided in a series of conferences between Irving M. MPEA, vice president of the Motion Picture Association, and the U.S. Army, that the latter will be acting as film officer for the Army, will retain effective Jan. 1 to head MPEA's Austrian organization.

Some phases of reorganization are still undecided. But it's known that the British are going commercial next year as well, with French future support form still unknown. The U.S. has broken away from ISB's film distribution monopoly some months ago and set up Sovereignty to control both distribution and production in Austria. Army film board of Vienna, which has been overseeing ISB's pic activities since the exit last June of Eugene Sharin as film officer, now must make a decision whether to have new releases to decide what's to become of remains of Nazi Wien Film properties which include several "feature-length studies" (both presently active) and some 200 active titles remaining from original 700 German-owned features seized. Probability is that the German pix will be gradually turned over to the American army as imported product and new local films arrive to fill play days. Army estimates that over the next 12 months \$600,000 in shillings being held for account of Hollywood interests for rental. But headquarter is still how to get rid of the rest of Wien Film, a juicy plant, "Theater der Jugend," which is capable of operating the former Hitler screen monopoly is in view. Except that it is feared that the army who operated the combine for the Nazi. That's why Wien Film is the only one of the German industry American haven't turned back to Austrian control under President Truman's directives of last fall.

Maas' Vice Treasures
Irving Maas returned here five days before heading for Prague. He's given up hope of getting clearance to film Hungary and Rumania. In both countries only the Soviet has the say on the Allied Commission which controls the country. It is so servable that Reds admit only a few U. S. business men or journalists. In Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria or Albania, U. S. business interests in obvious competition with Russians. In the case of the film industry, don't get to first base. State Dept. and Army have been powerless to help Maas in this respect. Before leaving, Maas had held a conference for local press and fan maps were lively interest in the treatment in forthcoming Hollywood product. They asked particularly for Disney and old titles like "The Godfather."

Wolf and Maas revealed that at least 50 new U. S. titles will reach Austria in the coming year. Policy was selecting six top rated commercial values, now that the first occupation phases have been passed. The film will submit to the military releases for occupied countries to Army and State Dept., which will make final veto. In the interim, selection process will be altogether in the industry's hands. Wolf hopes to conclude all administrative negotiations with Russians looking toward free sale and movement of pictures between zones. He is anxious to quota or political content. Russia would like to stay uninvolved in this, but just can't have enough homemade product to keep its houses busy. MPEA will try to make for Germany and Austria identical, to minimize paper work as well as numbers of prints required. Fifteen titles have already been okayed, and a further list of 28 is awaiting government action. It is expected to have all titles available in both dubbed and undubbed versions.

Williamson-Tait in Gam

Over Previous Year

Sydney, Dec. 4. — After clearing \$8,676 for operations, Williamson-Tait turned in a profit of \$141,509 for the year ending June 30 last. This compares with \$135,244 for previous year. Gross profit margin of \$206,948 as against \$200,204 previously. There's a steady decline at 6%.

Keep Nip Weaver Out of Pix

Tokyo, Dec. 1.

Osaka Spinning and Weaving Co. request to invest \$75,000 in a motion picture distributing agency was refused by General MacArthur, who watched the bank notes of larger Japanese firms.

Reason given for action was that it's not a "normal operation" for a weaving concern.

Pic Made of Laurel, Hardy Shorts Giving U.S. Films Bad Parianish Politics

Paris, Dec. 10.

U. S. product is getting unfavorable publicity from the current French film. Cheaper, a Champs Elysees theater, of a supposed new American feature titled "Three Wives of a King" (French version of Laurel and Hardy shorts pieced up together by Franco-London Film, a local producer, and the old Metro rights had expired. New title, and fact that the picture is a French production, and the old Metro rights had expired. New title, and fact that the picture is a French production, and the old Metro rights had expired.

A local league has resulted from the use by Cinescope of a print which was made by Richebe distribution. Richebe had distribution rights from Franco-London Film for the picture, but the old Metro rights had expired. New title, and fact that the picture is a French production, and the old Metro rights had expired.

INDIA SHOWING TEES NEW FAR EAST SKED

Metro International, continuing to lead the way in expansion of film operations overseas, has become the first to open up the program in the Far East, long considered the most important of foreign markets. Company took off the Far East program in Santa Cruz, small town near Bombay, India.

Welcome being the initial entry, Metro's "Strike Up the Band," augurs well for the future of film business in the part of the world, according to Metro International executives. Pioneer exhibit, with no previous experience, was a big success. The size of his audience, provided seats for his 500. SHO, however, was put up as a house show started and the picture played to more than twice the original audience.

Reason for the buff inaugural, it's believed, is the fact that most of the movies for the Indian market come from countries as India and China have never seen a commercial entertainment. The picture was a taste of Hollywood's lush product is almost certain to make film fans of the country.

Horney Back to Austria

Vienna, Dec. 10.

Brigitte Horney, Austrian film star now in Switzerland, will return to Vienna to head the new company. She signed contracts with Loewenfilm Productions for two pictures, "Song of Life" and "Love Without Passion."

In cast are also Rudolph Prack, Gusti Huber and Hans Hotl. Edward von Borosky will direct.

MEX. GOES BEYOND

Mexico City, Dec. 10.

Smash success of horse racing has inspired big back-cocked bet on a greyhound race track. Federal 20-year franchise was granted to Turismo group here for the undertaking.

Scottish 'Iron Curtain'

Glasgow, Dec. 9.

Laurence Olivier's production of Garsen Kanin's Broadway hit, "Born Yesterday," literally ran through "iron curtain" on tour through Scotland recently. A curtain at a local house jammed the playtime, forcing cancellation of the play.

Oliver asked the house operator to "draw the curtain" but the claim situation was an "act of God."

U.S. OK's First 10 German Pix Producers; Limited Production Is Likely

Berlin, Dec. 10.

The first 10 German film producers or firms in the American occupied zone to receive licenses have been announced by Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, director of Information Control Division.

The 10 producers or teams who received favorable consideration have been listed as: Josef von Baky and Richard Koenig; Harald Braun and Jacob Geis; Carl Hertz and the Atlantic to produce documentaries in Stuttgart; Karl Bannan, Erwin Hell and Ernst Hess trier, and Herbert Schöner.

Erich Pommer, American film production control officer on McClure's staff, said he believed that production will get under way early next year. Production will be limited to one film a month for each of the two available studios in the U. S. zone have a maximum capacity of nine films per year, and due to the critical shortage of raw film.

Both studios, the former UFA Film and the former Bavarische Filmkunst Studios at Geiselgasteig, will be used. The former Hollywood pix into the German language, "Suspicion," in process at January will be ready to roll in about two weeks and is slated for release in January. In Munich, work on "The King of Hearts" (The Can't Talk 1. With You) is being synchronized. Both studios will be working on the new Adventures of Mark Twain, "The Story of Louis Pasteur" and others.

Studios, being former Reichswerke, have been taken over by U. S. Military Government property control, pending liquidation of the Government-owned UFA cartel.

WARNERS' CANNES HOLIDAY

Paris, Dec. 10.

Jack Warner, now in Paris, is leaving for Cannes where he will spend the holidays with his wife. She's been in Switzerland where their daughter is at school.

He will return to his office in Paris and to London and return to London before sailing back to America.

Current London Shows

London, Dec. 17.

"And No Birds Sing," Aldwych.
"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

"Clatteruck," Wyndham.

"Dante," Garrick.

"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

"Fellow the Girls," Majesty's.

"Fools Rush In," Fortune.

"Gracie and Al," St. James.

"Guinea Pig," Criterion.

"Honey, Come the Boys," Saville.

"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

"Honey, Come the Boys," Saville.

"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

"Honey, Come the Boys," Saville.

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"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

"Honey, Come the Boys," Saville.

"The Great Dictator," Haymarket.

Scandinavian Stage Back to Normal With U. S. Legaters Leading Parade

Stockholm, Nov. 30.

Legit is fast returning to normal in the Scandinavian countries, with Sweden in the lead. U. S. plays since victory of the Allies.

Seven houses are active in Stockholm. The With Father's Day smash at the Royal Dramatic Theatre. Due to fact that house runs repertory, "The With Father's Day" will be back. "Patraskek," an old Swedish play, is being revived at the same time. The Blomster summer musical revue, now beyond its 200th performance.

"Deep Are the Roots" opened last week at New, but is closing this week—a flop. The Oscar has a new musical, "Escapade," doing capacity.

"The With Father's Day" is a musical by Stanley Lupino, which has done 60 performances and still doing well. "The With Father's Day" is doing fair in the smallish Boulevard.

In Gothenburg "Life With Father" is a smash at the City Theatre. "No Exit," though it received mixed notices, is selling fairly well at the same time. "The With Father's Day" is doing well after a long run at the Opera.

In Malmö, "The Taming of the Shrew," starring Edwin Adolphson and Lillevil Olsen, is a smash at the 1800-seat, Big Stage. "The With Father's Day" is doing well at the same time. "The With Father's Day" is doing well at the same time.

RKO rep will return to Bangkok just arrived in the U. S. from Holland, said that the dearth of good product is so great there that Motion Picture Export Assn. sponsored films should draw record boxoffice. Lionel opened the first in Bangkok, Siam, last week after being released from a jail prison camp where he spent several months.

Lionel said that all American product now playing in the Netherlands is of pre-war vintage, and that those films are mostly good business, led by "Young in Heart," Republic and Monogram, and members of the RKO group, already bringing product into Holland and enjoying the sellers' market, according to Lionel.

RKO rep will return to Bangkok to take over branch managerial duties. The most serious problem in the territory of that portion of the Far Eastern territory consists of natives, he said, and U. S. distribut must keep that in mind when releasing films there. For this purely oriental audience, the U. S. distribut must keep that in mind when releasing films there. For this purely oriental audience, the U. S. distribut must keep that in mind when releasing films there.

On paper, he stated, there are no more than 200 theatres in the country, with 20 in Bangkok. One of the biggest obstacles to film distribution there is transportation into the territory. Because of this, and the theatre shortage, Lionel said that 16m of film is being sent to the country. Portability is chief virtue of the narrow-gauge films, plus the fact that they are non-inflatable, an important consideration when prints are being handled by careless native workers.

Lionel said current RKO plans call for 16m films to be roadshows for the time being. The few factors make construction of narrow-gauge houses more feasible. Siam, however, is the fewest in the Far Eastern division which is free from strife, and film companies that are stymied in other lands expect to get their distribution machinery moving in Siam until other lands are ready.

Lionel is a lieutenant in the Dutch Colonial Army until captured by the Japanese and put in the notorious "Death Railway" work camp.

Strok in N.Y. To Resume Bookings for Far East

A. Strok, veteran Far East

impresso whose activities were interrupted by the war, is now in the line of talking and is in N. Y. after flying from Shanghai for the first time.

Strok plans to book such artists as Eren Zimbalist and Mische Rabinowitz to make a number of tours of the Far East, Jascha Heifetz, and others. Grace Moore, who was broken out, is also expected to be booked out.

Sedlak Powders Symp

Vienna, Dec. 9.

Frans Sedlak, a Czech, is designated as head of the Austrian Philharmonic Orchestra to conduct the State Opera. He is a native having outlived the Nazis in the last days of the war.

Called to the Volksturm troops, Sedlak and his wife were granted permission to form their own "regiment" and took their instruments along with them. Sedlak is chief of the Philharmonic in Prof. Siegfried Freiberg.

REPORT RIO'S FRENCH OFFERS

Mexico City, Dec. 10.

Hit that her "Maria Candalaria" made it in the capital, expatriate has gathered Dolores del Rio. She offers to play in fix in France. She may accept all three.

*Christmas
Day*

IN NEW YORK AT THE
HOLLYWOOD
IN LOS ANGELES AT THE
HOLLYWOOD
WILTERN and
DOWNTOWN

THE WINNER OF THE 1945 ACADEMY AWARD FOR

JOAN C JOHN G

The new Warner

ONE OF THE GREAT
OF THEM ALL

"Humor"

WITH
OSCAR LEVANT · J. CARROL NAISH · JEAN MARCUS

DIRECTED BY

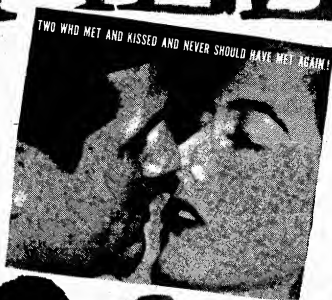
"MILDRED PIERCE" IS IN ANOTHER HISTORY-MAKING ROLE!

RAWFORD ARFIELD



Achievement

TEST



resque"

PRODUCED BY
EGULESCO · JERRY WALD

Screen Play by Clifford Odets and Zachary Gold • Based on a Story
by Fannie Hurst • Music Conducted by Franz Waxman



IT is with great joy, that we enter into the spirit of this Holiday Season . . . and greet our many friends in the Motion Picture Industry.

WE consider ourselves fortunate that our function in this great industry allows us the privilege of pleasant business associations with producers, distributors and exhibitors alike . . . with whom we have established enduring friendships and mutual respect.

AS 1946 draws to a close, and we approach the dawn of a new year . . . we take this opportunity to thank all of you for your cooperation during the past year . . . and to extend our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Bountiful New Year.

The Prize Baby

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
OFFICE BORN OF THE INDUSTRY

*One
of the greatest
selling titles of
all time...and
it's on the way
from
International!*

TEMPERATURE

NUMBER 1

on the Hit Parade

"OLD BUTTERMILK SKY"

*from***"CANYON PASSAGE"**

NUMBER 1

*on Universal's***"ALL-TIME HIT PARADE"**

"CANYON PASSAGE"

*in Technicolor***A WALTER WANGER PRODUCTION**

VARIETY

said:

**"RACK THE
ONE UP
AS A
SURE-THING
IN THE
SIDE POCKET
FOR STRONG
BOXOFFICE
FAVORABLE
COMMENT!"**



*Drama in the great
ALEXANDRE DUMAS
tradition!*



COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

The Return *of* Monte Cristo

starring

LOUIS HAYWARD · BARBARA BRITTON
with GEORGE MACREADY

UNA HENRY STEVEN RAY LUDWIG
O'CONNOR · STEPHENSON · GERAY · COLLINS · DONATH

Screenplay by George Bruce and Alfred Neumann

Directed by HENRY LEVIN · Produced by GRANT WHYTOCK

AN EDWARD SMALL PRODUCTION



Here's how they'll say it
this holiday!



World Premiere of M-G-M's Prize Picture "THE YEARLING"
(in Technicolor) December 25, 1946 at the Carthay Circle Theatre,
Los Angeles. The New York Premiere will be at Radio City Music
Hall following M-G-M's Technicolossal "TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"

**THE TWO BIGGEST N
THIS YEAR'S CONCERT B
AUDITORIUM, (DEC. 8)
MOINES, SHRINE AUDITOR
SMASHED EVERY RECORD
ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA
DIRECTION OF PHIL SPITA**

Tour conceived and bod



**IGHTS IN THE HISTORY OF
BUSINESS AT MILWAUKEE,
\$15,619.80, AT DES
MUM, (DEC. 11) \$12,135.52
. THE HOUR OF CHARM
AND CHOIR UNDER THE
LNY.**

ked by Harry D. Squires



The Fight on Teletint Just Begun

With Both Sides Priming for More

Washington, Dec. 17. FCC has all the necessary propagation data on ultra-high-frequency television, but still needs to decide whether the CBS brand of rainbow video is economically and technically sound on a nationwide basis and is sufficiently flexible to take care of future improvements in the television art. This at any rate was the consensus among observers as FCC received a week-long hearing on the proposed plans of turning Columbia's sequential color broadcast system into the public.

Commission will receive the scrap some time after Jan. 6, with testimony from the FCC.

VIP's Tele Junk

A healthy crowd of FCCers journeyed to New York City Monday and Tuesday for matters relating on what's new in television. The commissioners were taken to the DuMont demonstration of the "light beam" technique of relaying signals from the CBS field tests and outside pickup demonstrations of CBS color system.

Commissioner Clifford J. Durr was the only member not present. Durr was away from the Harvard Divinity students on some radio "facts of life."

money from DuMont Labs which has already announced its opposition to CBS' color process. CBS' Peter Binkley, who headed a batch of surprise testimony here last week, will be recalled for cross-examination with some witnesses. Observers were still dubious on CBS' chance, though all in attendance at FCC's hearings, including RCA-NBC men themselves, agreed that CBS had put on an unexpectedly strong case in favor of television plans. On the other hand, insiders recalled that only once in history has FCC been in a majority sentiment in the industry and upon the "status quo." That was when it was the question of the program and the commission hasn't heard the last of that move yet.

Commissioner E. K. Jell pointed to the vote of the Television Committee of the Radio Technical Panel Board in favor of delaying commercialization of color television was felt to be an important consideration in the FCC decision. An RTPB subcommittee on ultra-high-frequency television also voted overwhelmingly in favor of delaying a decision on color. This vote found CBS and Westinghouse the only parties with commercial color "sequential" system, and the Society

(Continued on page 50)

Now Shoe's On Other Foot; RCA vs. Color

Recalls Early Fight

Washington, Dec. 17. Irony of FCC's television hearing last week was the striking parallel to early television history, in RCA stood out against the rest of the industry in urging commercialization of black-and-white television standards.

At last week's hearing, RCA and a majority of industry spokesmen were accusing CBS of trying to jump the gun on color television. In 1939-41, it was RCA that vainly pushed for immediate action of its particular brand of monochrome video.

FCC Commissioner E. K. Jell pointed up the parallel neatly. He reminded one RCA witness that the company had been the first to develop moving PM upstarts to the 100mc range when "more propagation data was needed."

Another thrust at RCA came from assistant FCC general counsel Harry Plotkin. Plotkin reminded CBS witnesses that it had proposed moving PM upstarts to the 100mc range when "more propagation data was needed." Plotkin said apparently the 100mc area is okay for television since that is what RCA went to force on the industry. Propagation characteristics are the same for both video and FM broadcasting.

WBZ Buys 10-Acre Tract For Boston Teletint Outlet

Boston, Dec. 17. With an FCC authorization for the first commercial television facility in Boston granted to WBZ, Westinghouse-NBC outlet, the station has purchased a 10-acre tract of land near the Harvard Stadium in Allston, four miles from downtown Boston. The tract is owned by the Cowles-owned WOOD, which moved its transmitter to the Long-Worth site of the center, which will house all the WBZ studio. Transmitter will remain in Hull, however.

Black and white video is expected first, followed by color when receivers are ready.

Film Shortage May Hamper Color

Washington, Dec. 17. Possible impact of a shortage of color film on development of a full-color video system highlighted a part of the testimony given last week at FCC's public hearings on the "light beam" color system.

Dr. Frank T. Frank, counsel was questioned by RCA-NBC on the difficulties he met might encounter in getting enough film.

Frank replied CBS would produce mostly "live" show material. The addition of color received rather than intensified the work of existing programs.

Other CBS witnesses admitted more rehearsal time might be required to produce a batch of experience of films with Technicolor is repeated in video.

At the hearing, however, said Carl Haverill, president of Thomascon, Inc., who foresees a shortage of film for video and television use of Thomascon, a system of color photography, for application in an electronic system of rainbow tube. Haverill said there is now only enough color film to produce 30 out of 300 full-length features turned out a year, although the public wants more and more color.

"Even if dyed film could be made plentiful," he said, "there are two other obstacles to its use—its high cost and its restricted application to entertainment films only." Haverill said he had no case where dyed film could be used to color the pictures of news events while they were occurring.

Benson Vice Smith at JMT

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Leon Benson, of the radio department of the Walter Dill Scott agency, has assumed charge of television, replacing Ted Smith, now due to illness.

Benson joined JMT late last summer, coming over from Paramount Pictures, where he handled radio and related matters.

TONY PASTOR

Five JACKSON in 400 radio stations are spinning Tony's sensational transcription of the score of Walt Disney's "Song of the South"—just released by Long-Worth. "Laurie" reaction indicates that the combination of "Tony Pastor," Charlie Trotta and "Laurie" is a sure bet.

LANG-WORTH, INC., NEW YORK

Yule High Mass To Be Televised

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Televising of the high Christmas mass of the Roman Catholic church will be attempted here by Television Productions, Inc.

Arrangements have been completed by Klaus Landberg, director of Telepod, with pastorate of the Blessed Sacrament church for the telecasting of camera and radio from the church on Xmas day. The event will be aired at noon over Telepod station.

N.Y. Fire Coverage Offers Proof Positive of Video's Competish vs. Newsreels

Television departments of ABC, CBS and NBC pulled a clean sweep on the commercial newscasts with one exception, coverage of the disaster at Washington Heights tenement fire last Thursday (12). ABC did not follow the Saturday (14) by showing the views the first pictures of the Pennsylvania Railroad train wreck in Langfield, O., on Friday.

Speed with which the tele stations edited their film and got it on the air is good indication, according to (Continued on page 50)

Inside Stuff Television

Not to be accused of trying to influence FCC members in the color controversy by passing out Christmas presents, CBS handed the commission a copy of its new "light beam" color system. The booklet, written by Ludwig Bemelmans, titled "A Tale of Two Glimpses." Booklets, of course, contained CBS arguments in favor of its color system by having Bemelmans, in his inimitable style, compare the disadvantages of the one "glimp" (two glimps make a glimpse) with a black-and-white receiver to the favorable reactions of one with a color receiver.

Proposition stunt drew plenty of attention at the FCC hearings in Washington last week, where the books were passed out, as well as in the general trade.

Reaction from the opposite faction in the controversy were equally favorable to the gimmick, but with reservations, of course. John F. Royal, NBC exec vicepres over television, put it: "The color on the printed matter (the booklet) was much better than the color on the television screen—and it must be remembered that it took many years for the printing industry to develop that color perfection."

A. I. N. Y. daily newspapers with the exception of PM and the two Hearst papers are now running daily tele schedules. Program lineup for the week (the booklets) is carried in the Times, Herald Tribune, Sun, Post and World-Telegram, while the Daily News runs a highlight section in its radio column.

Insertion of the video program schedules was started by the World-Tribune early last August, but the paper subsequently abandoned the idea, coming in later when the other dailies had picked it up. Schedules are also carried by the Hudson Dispatch and the New York Herald Tribune. Sunday News, both cities being within range of N. Y. video transmitters.

Televisors on the Coast are increased over what is regarded as extremely poor and confusing coverage of the color video hearings in Los Angeles. Hollywoodians believe there has been a deliberate attempt on the part of the FCC to mislead the public. The interpretation of the facts presented, to add to the public confusion. The fact is felt that the coverage given is designed to confuse the inference it really is a puzzle due to the very nature of the matter, the wild statements often quoted, the intra-industry conflict, etc.

DuMont Shows Direct View Color Tube As CBS Pushes Own Tint View

DuMont television, picking up the RCA color video theory that such is the best direct-view color tube, rather than any commercial standards can be set, disclosed its latest development in new direct-view color tube—at its Passaic, N. J., lab Monday (16). At the same time, DuMont revealed that its black-and-white cathode ray tube that's 30 to 50 times as brilliant as the average motion picture film, thereby indicating that the field for development of low-frequency monochrome video is still wide open.

Not to be outdone, however, CBS leaders of their color television faction, gathered up the FCC members after they left Passaic to demand that the FCC take into account developments at the CBS studios in New York. Then CBS took the commission to the FCC studios, to show them the first long-distance color transmission. Color pictures, using the CBS sequential standards, were transmitted directly from the CBS Labs to Tarrytown, a distance of 25 miles, with the reception reportedly highly successful.

Dr. Allen B. DuMont, prexy of DuMont Labs, declared that his color tube could be used with either an all-electronic system or the CBS sequential system, by adding that the light would be reduced two-thirds in brilliancy under the CBS method. DuMont's claim differed from that recently demonstrated by RCA that its tube is brighter rather than projection picture, and has three bases, instead of the three separate bases of the RCA tube.

Naming the tube a Trichroscope, Dr. DuMont declared: "We must be in a hurry to decide that this tube will provide a much better color picture than can be obtained by the projection means or by the use of a color filter (CBS method), the reason for this being the much greater brightness which can be obtained by this method as well as the better contrast range."

Dr. DuMont's brilliance of the black-and-white tube, pictures received on the way contained a standard quality, as they were received on new video set. When a bank of RCA tubes is utilized, the picture age screen's image faded, while the new tube's picture remained clear. The RCA tube's picture faded, while the new tube's picture remained clear. The RCA tube's picture faded, while the new tube's picture remained clear.

Dr. Peter Goldmark, director of the RCA video research, disclosed new sequential system which produced a "simple solution for producing color pictures on a single channel on the AV circuit sequential standards."

Dr. Goldmark's system, which receives either kind of picture on the same screen, plus a table model color receiver. In addition, Dr. Peter Goldmark, director of the RCA video research, disclosed new sequential system which produced a "simple solution for producing color pictures on a single channel on the AV circuit sequential standards."

Show's format resembled that of "County Fair." Borden's radio program, with announcer Mel Allen handling the entire chain, various and sundry members of the audience were induced to come up on the stage and perform in the show. For the usual kind of innuendo jokes, in the show, a blindfolded guy introduced him to his date for the evening and (Continued on page 47)

Ch Ad Agencies Prep Tele in Buff Symposium; Hooper Plugs for Sports

Chicago, Dec. 17. Strongest effort to stimulate interest in television among local advertising agencies came about last week (11) at the annual meeting of the Advertising Agencies Television Promotion Committee, in cooperation with Commercial Radio-Edison Co. Meet was attended by more than 250 representatives of 78 agencies.

Patterned after recent Rathbun and Ryan meet, symposium was by far the most Chicago has seen since video before ad agency executives.

After viewing WKBK (ABC) telecast of General Mills' "The Price Is Right" program, made programs, such as sporting events, constitute today's best television. With major network works scrambling to bring competition to Chicago's single video outlet, Hooper said that RCA is going all out to deliver equipment which will bring about such competition.

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Video Aca Wants State Charter

Hollywood, Dec. 17. A charter will be requested of the state by the new National Association of Television Arts and Sciences. Decision to form a non-profit organization was made at a preliminary meeting of the sparking interest parties here, Dec. 11.

The meeting also resulted in the naming of steering, membership, publicity and program committees, and the setting of a preliminary date for Jan. 7. Thereafter it's hoped to meet once monthly. The ATAS will, until later, remain independent of others and will seek no affiliation with others, including the National Broadcasting Company, which, incidentally, has asked its local rep. to investigate and report on the AV circuit sequential standards.

Attending the second meeting were reps of the motion picture industry, the radio and television, prospective video operators, etc.

Lesauze Video Gabbler

Larry Lesauze, former CBS' radio war correspondent and now the web's United Nations reporter, has been named as the new commentator on the Gulf News show over CBS television on Thursday. Lesauze will be the first to leave the show because of his radio show commitments.

The show is scheduled to air (Thursday). Show has just been reported by Gulf for another 13 weeks.

Workshop's 13-Wk. Musical Cycle

The Columbia Workshop is not going off the air. A rumor to this effect gained momentum last week in connection with the cancellation of a number of sustaining program series at CBS. However, it's planned to present a special series of musical-lyrics programs starting around Feb. 1 and continuing for possibly a 13-week cycle.

Series is known as "Once Upon a Time" and is the work of two Canadians, Ray Duvall and Mollie Duvall, of Toronto, who were first brought to the attention of program department higher-ups by Mollie's former husband, an associate script editor in the Program Writing Division.

Meantime the Workshop director rotation is booked through January. Series will go in for a couple of months during the holiday season. This Saturday (21) it's "The Day They Gave Babies Away" which Mollie Leveritt adapted from a Comopolitan magazine piece by Dale Eunson. Werner Mischele will direct.

Following week Workshop will be "Rain, Rain Go Away" by a newcomer, Walter Newman, and directed by William N. Robson. It's described as the first script Newman, previously a magazine writer, ever did for radio. "Rain" will be heard from Hollywood.

WLJB Setting Hypoed

Bally Campaign, Labor

Threatens ACA Strike

Tying in with its prospective move of studios and offices from Brooklyn to Manhattan, W.L.B. N.Y., owned by the New York Post, is about to launch a promotion and exploitation campaign which seems unusually large for an independent station.

Meanwhile, however, the station was having labor trouble, the American Communications Assn. (CIO) having cancelled a strike vote at the last moment, last Saturday (14), giving the outlet two more weeks to finish negotiations for a contract. Union has organized the outlet from elevator boys to private secretaries.

A staff of four people, at least two of them high priced executives, has been assembled by Jackson Leichter, proxy of the station, for the fall radio campaign. Heading up the promotion and publicity is Fred Methot, for eight years in promotion work with United Feature Syndicate. Next comes Julius Braunstein, former president of the Sare advertising agency, art director and art production chief. Sam Effert has been put in charge of exploitation and promotion of individual shows, and Judy Grollman is assistant to Methot.

New York radio people observe that all of the new people signed up by Leichter are not from the radio field.

WLJB, which has applied to FCC for upping its present 1,000-watt daytime only operation to 5,000-watt nights and 10,000-watt daytime, is moving about Jan. 15 to a reconstructed church building at 207 East 30th street, Manhattan.

Programwise, the station has done little change recently, but plans are under way to alter the station's major format by developing a three-hour disc jockey program in line with those being featured by other major N.Y. Indies. Jim Young, now in charge of the station's Hollywood column, will put in charge of this section.

Ruth Brummer, for the last couple of months in charge of the station's publicity, has resigned.

The union demands center primarily around announcer salaries. Station, which has been running in the red for several years, has been paying the spotters on a par with other outlying Indies, salaries starting at \$43 a week, with no fee for spot announcements. Union is asking a base of \$65 a week plus commercial program fees and extra for commercial announcements. On the base of \$65, ACA is asking a raise of \$250 every three months, or \$10 a year until \$95 is reached in three years.

Main station objection to the demands is that WLJB operates solely on a daytime basis, and the average working week for each announcer is 15 1/2 hours, leaving him time for outside commitments.

Top 15 and the Opposition

Charlie McCarthy hit the No. 1 jackpot in the new (Dec. 15) Hoopercravings, with Fibber & Mollie running second, though two points behind. Eleven shows in competition to the Top 15 managed to crash through with a 10 or better, including the five-minute Sunday night Parker Pen news segment opposite Allen, and the Wednesday and Thursday night Johns Manville news capsules in the 8:55-9 p.m. slots.

Top 15	OPPOSITION	Total Network Competition
Charlie McCarthy 28.7	11.7 Sam Spade 18.3	
Fibber & Mollie 27.8	10.4 Crime Doctor 12.2	
Fred Allen 27.6	10.3 Parker Pen News 12.9	
Jack Benny 27.4 11.5	
Bob Hope 26.5 16.0	
Red Skelton 25.5	(No sponsored network competition)	
Walter Winchell 25.3	13.7 Man. Merry-Go-Round 22.9	
Lux Radio Theatre 25.0 16.3	
Screen Guild Players 22.3 17.6	
Amos 'n' Andy 21.6 11.0	
Phil Harris 21.0	14.5 Blondie 20.7	
Mr. D. A. 19.1	11.6 Dinah Shore 19.8	
Gildersleeve 18.0	(15.7 Dr. Christian	
Suspense 17.0	1122 Johns-Manville News 19.0	
Burns & Allen 16.8	14.8 Aldrich Family 21.2	
	14.4 FBI In Peace and War	
	12.2 Johns-Manville News 21.8	

ABC Sets Formula for Star-Scripter

'Partners' in New Housebuilt Shows

A new formula for tying stars as well as writers to the network, by giving them a "piece" in new shows, has been developed by ABC's programming vespee Adrian Samish.

To put the formula into effect, Samish is leaving for the Coast early next month (6), after having already paved the way for contacts with some of the people he has in mind as "partners" in housebuilt shows.

Idea is to sign up writer-star teams on the Coast to work with the network on new comedy shows. A number of prominent film comics, says Samish, would be interested in going into radio on a permanent basis if they were sure that the vehicles to be provided to them would be entirely suitable to their specific talents. Some is true of some top scripters, who would like to be able to spread their wings and call the shots on whatever show they're

working on, without being curtailed by an outside producer.

To take advantage of these possibilities, Samish is going to try to form "teams," composed in each case of a scripter and star. Both would be offered part ownership of the new show they would develop, with the network also holding a piece.

ABC execs in N. Y. are sure that the venture would result in more profitable house-built shows for the web. They feel that, since Samish became vespee in Oct. 1945, they have developed more ABC package shows that have paid off than anyone else. They point to the fact that eight shows that are now paying off were developed by the net itself. These include "Policewoman," sponsored by Carter, Johnny Thompson show, "Harvey," "I Deal in Crime," "Hastings pistol rings," Henry Morgan show, Zversharp-Schick;

(Continued on page 48)

Promotion with a Punch for WCOP Local Programs

1,400,000 people in Greater Boston are continually reminded of WCOP local programs through newspaper "reader ads" like these, plus window displays, announcements, magazine ads, outdoor boards and car cards. With new power and vigorous merchandising, backed up by all-out listener promotion, WCOP is Boston's outstanding buy in radio advertising.

Now 5,000 watts

Rates and availabilities from any Kotz office

WCOP Boston

A Cowles Station
Exclusive American Broadcasting Company Outlet in Boston

Meal-making can be merry! Mildred Butler agrees that every day is a "FUN" day. Her "FUN" is "FUN" which reaches Greater Boston housewives from 1:00 to 1:15 PM Monday through Friday and from 10:00 to 10:15 AM on Saturdays. Miss Butler offers practical, easy-to-prepare hints, mixed with your radio dial.

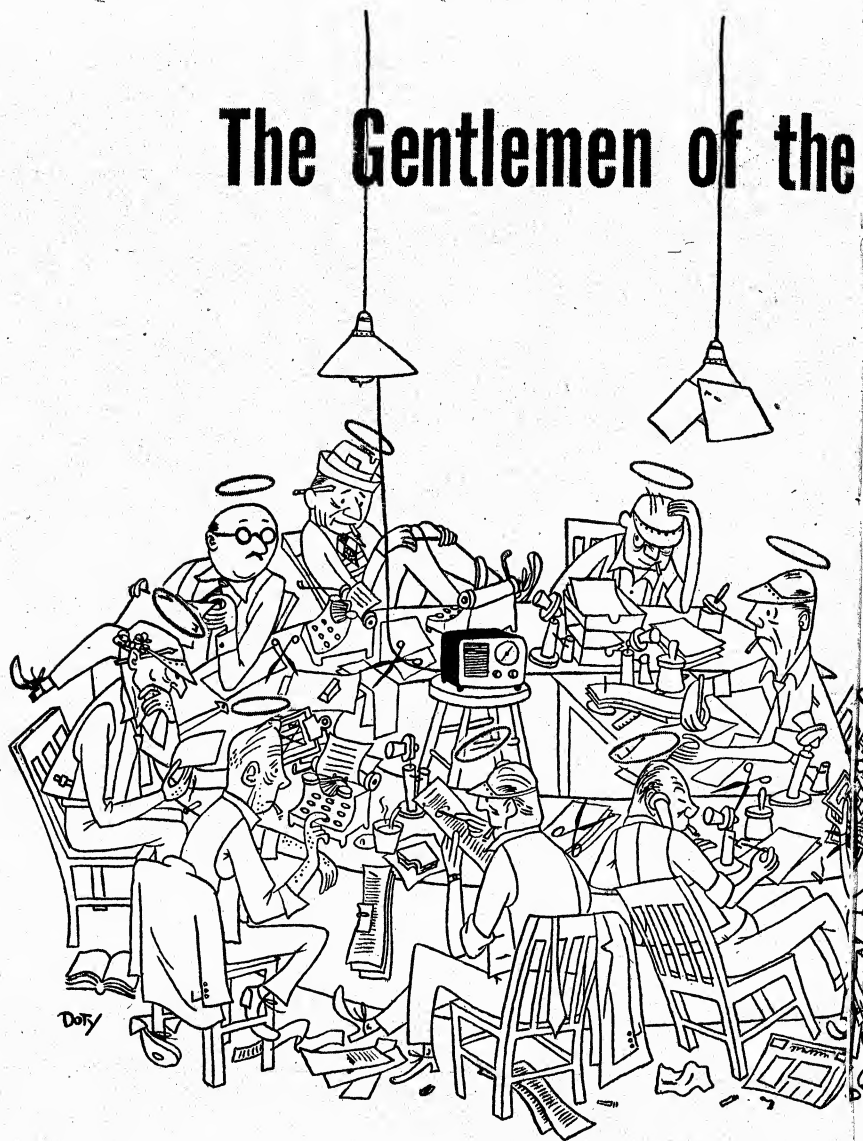
Are you a home gardenist with problems? Having trouble with your lawn, shrubs, or flowers? George Graves has pertinent information for you on his HOME AND GARDEN NEWS, broadcast on WCOP daily Monday through Saturday from 7:15 to 7:25 AM. It's an outstanding opportunity for the home gardener, with a special and beautiful program, 1:00 on your radio dial.

A nose for news and a talent for announcing it to the radio audience are two qualities that make "Chick" why BOB COCHRAN at WCOP is one of New England's favorite radio stars. Heard daily at 6:15 PM on the WCOP, "Cochran Club" has kept tuned to WCOP for the latest and most complete news, 1:00 on your radio dial.

"THE OLD SALT," Ralph Barker of Gloucester, is famed for his accuracy in forecasting the weather. He broadcasts complete weather summaries to WCOP listeners at 7:40 AM and 6:30 PM daily Monday through Saturday, and a special week-end forecast on Saturdays at 7:40 PM, 1:00 on your radio dial.

Spot fast depend on CHICK COCHRAN for accurate, colorful sports broadcasting over WCOP every evening. Monday through Friday, from 6:35 to 6:45 PM, "Chick" is a new addition to the WCOP sports staff after serving in the Army. You'll find him at 1:00 on your radio dial.

The Gentlemen of the



Press vote CBS

THE verdict is now in from more than 600 newspaper radio editors who were asked in *Motion Picture Daily's* eleventh annual poll to name the leaders in 23 separate classifications of radio programming and performance during 1946.

They awarded CBS first place in 10 classifications and second place in 8. They nominated Columbia for having:

The Best News Broadcast THE ATOM BOMB TEST AT BIKINI
 The Best Symphonic Orchestra . THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC-SYMPHONY
 The Best Dramatic Program LUX RADIO THEATRE
 The Best Children's Program LET'S PRETEND
 The Best Quiz Show INFORMATION PLEASE
 The Best Female Vocalist (Classical) PATRICE MUNSEL
 The Best Female Vocalist (Popular) DINAH SHORE
 The Best Film Player on the Air LIONEL BARRYMORE
 The Best Comedienne JOAN DAVIS
 The Best Network Publicity Service CBS PRESS INFORMATION

Radio, in our judgment, owes much to the informed and plain-spoken opinion of these radio news editors. They know their business. Their number is on the increase as more and more progressive publishers, with the growing conviction that readers and listeners are the same, are adding columns of radio criticism to their papers.

To these editors and their publishers we offer our thanks and congratulations for their judgments. To the CBS performers, producers and sponsors who share in these honors, go our further appreciation and acclaim for the job they have done.

THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM



"IS RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC INTEREST?"

(Town Meeting of the Air)
With Mark Woods, Sydney Kaye, Frederic Wakeman, Clifford J. Durr, George V. Denny, Moderator
60 Mins.; 8:30-9:30 p.m., Thurs. (12)
Sustaining
WJZ-ABC, N. Y.

Radio was fairly well (although not completely satisfactorily) served by last Thursday's "Town Meeting of the Air" program, whose intelligent discussion and criticism came out of the progressive lineup George Denny set to discuss an important theme like "Is Radio Serving the Public Interest?"

ABC's president Mark Woods and Sydney Kaye, general counsel for Broadcast Music, thought radio was serving the public interest. FCC Commissioner Clifford Durr and ex-actress novelist Frederic ("Hush") Wakeman, thought it definitely was not. And the negative presented the stronger case.

The trouble with the program was that the speakers spoke slightly at cross purposes or on different tangents. They read their set speeches first—and each followed his own trail. The speeches were not the most interesting part of the program, because they contained the meat of the debate. The rebuttals that followed were not too strong, while the subsequent questions from the floor and their answers, weren't too sharp or exciting.

Wakeman's talk was on the practical plane and Durr's on the idealistic. Wakeman, who spoke first, had perhaps the best speech. In trenchant talk, straight from the shoulder, Wakeman accused broadcasters of running out on their responsibilities, of turning over commercial programming to the advertisers, the sponsors. "The responsibility for commercial programs," he said, "is in the wrong hands. You network executives have nothing to do with most shows; the sponsors have it solely."

Admitting that American radio

was healthy and democratic, else he couldn't have been there, Wakeman felt that there was too much huckstering in radio, that the salesmen had grabbed the microphone. Sponsors had to be taken out of the entertainment business, where they didn't belong, he said, and put back into the advertising business, where they belonged.

While believing in mass entertainment, Wakeman felt that radio ought to be more programs devoted to limited audience, like "The University of the Air," more town forum, etc. But now, he said, the sponsors have taken over, and Wakeman hammered it home.

Kaye, who followed, presented the familiar line that American radio was the best in the world—"don't touch it," he said, "it's a better job in its field than did newspapers in the past," he said. He believed in specific criticism of a certain part of commercial, but felt that general criticism was bad. This "can only weaken the structure of what is admittedly the best radio in the world," he said, "and increase the risk of our getting something worse."

Durr's speech, which packed force into its idealism, to make it run a close second to Wakeman's, laid out the obvious fact that radio was not just another kind of private enterprise and that broadcasters are trustees for property belonging to the U. S. And since no other medium had the power to reach millions and challenge emotions while the stakes are no less than the peace of the world—radio fell far short today of serving the public interest because its responsibilities didn't exist potentially.

"Radio has become primarily an advertising medium, with the profit motive as its chief aim," he said. "There must be a better reason for putting a program on the air than the three minutes of commercial."

Woods' talk, primarily, was a defense of advertisers. Their money had made possible the best talent in the world, the Allen, Boner, Scheraga, Koussevitzky, Winchell, Shiraz, Twenty years ago, he said, when there were very few sponsors, programs notably lacked distinction. Sponsors not only paid for the programs directly, he said, but indirectly paid for the quality of the programs and services. "It is thanks to advertising revenue that radio does pay its own way," he said, "and that is a most respectable American tradition."

Woods felt that broadcasters "shouldn't" limit their programs to themselves. This would lose them

BOUQUET FOR YOU
With Patti Clayton, Billy Williams, Louise Kling, Billy Leach, Howard Smith Orch., Caesar Petrillo Orch.
30 Mins.; Mon. through Fri., 5:30 p.m.
Sustaining
WJZ-ABC, N. Y.

A virtually uninterrupted half-hour of pleasant musical fare, "Bouquet for You" originates in both New York and Chicago. With the eastern production center airing Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and the western center airing Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a strong CBS bid for late afternoon (5-5:30) audience against the board, replacing the "Showcase," dramatic strip aired from New York, with Patti Clayton, Billy Williams and the Howard Smith Orchestra carrying the ball after Lee Vines' honey but smooth lute. Times picked were unobtrusive enough to permit relaxed listening, but formed a bouquet of roses and a mention. Only audience-grabbing gimmick was that songs were chosen from requests accompanied by letters telling they were picked. Winning notes were a bouquet of roses and a mention.

Miss Clayton's dancing pipes to good effect in "It's Be Seeing You" and "Ten for Two" among others, while Williams acted as the male foil in "Falling in Love is Wonderful." Band walked along as the male foil in "Falling in Love is Wonderful." Band walked along as the male foil in "Falling in Love is Wonderful." Band walked along as the male foil in "Falling in Love is Wonderful."

In the Chicago segments Louise Kling, Billy Leach and the Caesar Petrillo Orch take over with Franklyn MacCormack dishing out the syrup.

Tom.

additional worthwhile ideas from the outside, he said. He stated further that broadcast-ers had spent great effort developing a code of morals and advertising standards. "We have not completely solved the problem," he said, "but everyone must agree that advertising has a legitimate place in American radio and our economy."

All very good stuff, of course. But Wakeman wasn't answered on advertisers instead of network running the show; no one saw the solution in Kaye's thinking; no one took to Durr's gauge on the peace of the world; stakes, and no one fiddled Woods' complacency. Denny Quigley, it seems, had mounted the "public interest" subject, and it didn't end in all directions.

CHILDREN AND PREJUDICE
With Harry Kramer, Edna Stone, Dr. Lawrence Frank, Billy Brandt, Carl Van Doren, Kaye Terrell, Producer: Ella Dorian
30 Mins.; Mon. through Fri., 1 p.m.
Sustaining
WNYC, N. Y.

Responsibility of adults for implanting prejudices in children was the dominating and oft-overstated thesis of this panel discussion. "Prejudice" was originally aired over the Mutual network and rebroadcast on the CBS network. The speakers, from the sports world, theatre, teaching profession and child psychology were asked to underline the point and home from their respective angles. The speakers were not drawn back by both in its failure to generate any basic difference of opinion among the speakers, and the vague generality of its conclusions.

Sports commentator, Bill Brandt found the solution to the problem of combating prejudices in children in holding up the world's soccer team as a model for them to follow. But he neglected to mention the existence of a Jim Crow policy in organized baseball. Ezra Stone stressed the responsibility of films and radio, molding young opinion; while Edna Stone, a teacher, spoke of the educator's role. Dr. Lawrence Frank, psychologist, essayed an overall analysis and returned to the basic point that children are the creatures of the adults around them. Carl Van Doren, in summation, struck a hopeful note in declaring that on his travels through Europe he had detected a growing sense of guilt on the part of people who had the existence of racial prejudice.

Hern.

Follow-up Comment

That's not dramatic criticism. Fan-Hart whips up. Its fine prose writing which makes the listener wonder how she can churn up this capital philosophy between the final curtain and her WJZ (N.Y.) stint. Her "Land's End" comment inspires this.

Georgie Price was excellent Sunday noon with that plea for the Progressive Children's School as Background announced. The parade of showfolk, like the following, pointed up the 32d anniversary of the PCS. Kenny Detmar, Peter Donald, Mary Small, Russell Crouse, among others. "Life With Fairy," Guthrie McClinton-Katharine Cornell, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Irving Berlin and Ruth Gordon (tearing off an Alexander Woolcott fund) were spotlighted as endorsing special "rooms" at the PCS which makes possible necessary academic training for theatrical juveniles while they're also trying to click on Broadway. A somewhat and puny cavalcade as Price, who was dominant, reprised his Gus Edwards allusion (Cantor, Winchell, Cuddell, et al.), plus the patterings on Broadway when Denes comes Jane Hall and Mrs. Franklin Robinson first started the PCS in 1914.

Some distinguished citizens, and some characters right out of Damon Runyon's literary imagination, were invited to pay their last respects to the deceased writer. Most sincere and most understanding tributes to Runyon were of course read by those on the program whose life and work he chronicled in his short stories. Speakers included among others, Farley, ceremonial comments, and Marie Waxman, editor of the Ringdale Reporter. Joe Lynch boxing promoter, Eddie Walker, also of the boxing ring, Grantland Rice, and Billy McCarthy, a strictly Runyon-esque creation; and Bill Corum. Letter, a close friend of Runyon, delivered a warm human evaluation

HITS AND MISSES
With Harry Kramer, Edna Stone, Producer: Dick Swift
Director: Gordon Gragdon
30 Mins.; Mon. through Fri., 10 a.m.
Sustaining
WJZ-ABC, N. Y.

WCSB is making a strong bid for local interest with its home-built "Hits and Misses" morning show which succeeds the network's "Joe Powers Show." Whether the network announced it was ranking "Powers," WCSB grabbed the 10-10:30 a.m. slot to show what it could do on its own.

Result is an interesting quiz show built along comparatively simple lines combining the better features of several shows. Idea has eneece Harry Kramer quiz emporium of various firms on subjects of general interest, but payoff comes on queries based on a photograph, record. Quizzes get a \$20 start with question divided into three parts. Convicted, suggests \$5 each section moved, Jackpot session comes at end of program. Listeners get an in on the game with \$10 for sending name of a record along with suggested questions to be asked.

The gimmick here which will get much local interest is the confining of quizzes to one particular firm. Initial strains and CBS employees from one of the broadcast credit service, another a captain of the CBS page girls, and a third from the theater department. All, when queried correctly, gave interesting sidelights on their jobs, and Kramer does an okay job in this direction.

Jae.

of the man. Topping all for color were the few words by Harry Brandt, the golden voice of Madison Square Garden boxing matches. Operating singer Charles Albert McLean, rendered "On a Perfect Day." Broadcast, which was heard in the "Hour of Champions" did omitted all commercials.

COMPARABLE

THE VOICES OF MARLIN BLADES
JINGLES
JANGLE
RADIO'S MOST COMPLETE, EFFECTIVE JINGLE SERVICE
YOUR Jingle Song - or - Written, Packaged, Produced:
"LANNY & GINGER" GIER
545-3510, N. Y. C. A-7-621
ADAM, NATE, ETC., LTD.

FOR RENT
47th St. E., Near Park, magnificent studio, entire floor, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, suitable for business and home use. Call: Mrs. Reschke Assoc., Inc. W-2-5555.

MIKE'S HEALTH STUDIO
250
COLIN ALLEN

1946 Has Been a Great Year for...

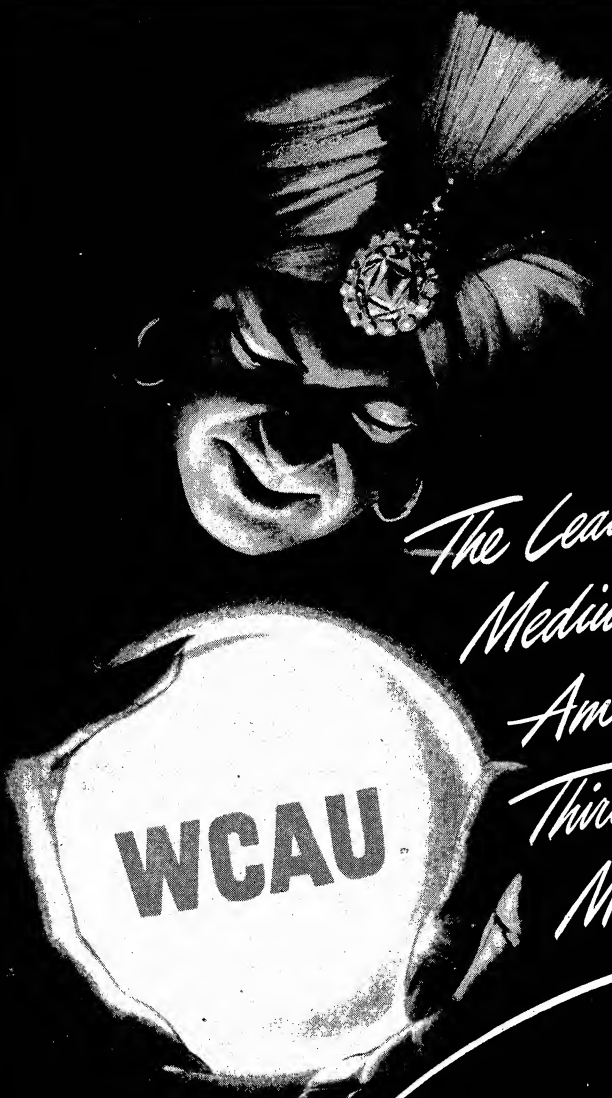
W of WOV believe that in serving the public interest to the best of our abilities, we have been able to attract many sponsors alike. Developing a broader pattern designed to entertain, educate and inform, has resulted in building and building one of the most important audiences listening to any New York independent station. At the close of 1946 we express our gratitude to the sponsors who have contributed so much to make this public service possible.

RAUL H. WEIL, General Manager
JOHN E. WARDENCO, Nat. Rep.

WOV
NEW YORK

for public service

"We start with this and work up."



*The Leading
Medium in
America's
Third Largest
Market*

POWER + PROGRAM = SALES

WCAU

50,000 WATTS • CBS AFFILIATE

PHILADELPHIA'S LEADING RADIO INSTITUTION

5000 Watts

KUOM Leaps Into Breach In St. Paul School Strike

Broadcasting Lessons

St. Paul school teachers' strike saw KUOM Univ. of Minnesota students jump into the breach. Instructions to school kids, time scheduled as all prepared in case schools failed to open next week, when strike became an actuality, began broadcasting regular instruction programs. Strike still continues, as do protests.

KUOM drew upon experience of last summer during polo epidemic, when six weeks of one-third of school children's schedule was devoted to special children's programs.

For school strike, 15 regular programs of Minnesota School of the Air were altered to be suitable for children at home as well as those in classrooms, and several special programs were added to the schedule. Series will continue until the strike terminates. Burton F. Paul, station manager, directs.

Tele Reviews

Continued from page 40

then removed the blindfold to show him Elsie the Cow in person. After the audience had a good laugh of course, the guy was presented with an attractive young actress for a night in the Diamond Horseshoe.

McFee also got in a plug for the new RCA video sets by presenting one to a paralytic-ridden Brooklyn boy via a two-way phone conversation. This gave Allen a chance to introduce the Caligary Bros., vaude comic team, who went through their slow-motion boxing paces to the audible ooh's and ah's of the kid. Place such a sequence on the show will undoubtedly be questioned by some viewers but it went off well.

McFee could have perked up the show by giving viewers a chance to see the participants in their hide from the audience to the stage. As it was, the cameras cut from one to another with no apparent reason, NBC director Eddie Sobel handled his cameras competently. *Stat.*

PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY

With Win Elliott, announcer.
Director: Herbert Bayard Swope, Jr.
to Nine; Sunday (10), 3 p.m.
FORD MOTORS

WGBS-TV-CBS, N. Y.

(J. Walter Thompson)

As the second phase of the CBS-Ford deal for television coverage of sports events from Madison Sq. Garden, N. Y., CBS is now televising weekly pro hockey games from the arena. Besides offering further proof that sports events today still offer the best form of video entertainment, the hockey remotes also demonstrate, just as did basketball pickups, that the CBS crew has sports coverage down at pat.

"Director Herbert Bayard Swope, Jr., did a top job. The N. Y. Rangers-Montreal Canadiens game on Sunday (10) was a real treat. Two image Orlikon cameras, Swope brought viewers all the action of the ultra-fast ice game by having his cameramen put their lenses at the right speed to follow the puck but not fast enough to give viewers a squishy stomach. An excellent bit of camera work was turned in at one point in the game, when Swope cut from the ice to the penalty box to show one of the Rangers returning the game, and then reverted immediately back to the arena without missing a thing. For best results, Swope concentrated a medium shot for most of the action, leaving closeups only in rare instances.

Most job of narration was also turned by Win Elliott, but the only radio-trained announcer who's made the switch to video successfully. Since hockey is so fast Elliott's play-by-play in this case resembled that of a radio announcer but the system is necessary in order to help viewers follow the action.

Ford filmed commercials, turned out by the motion picture department of the J. Walter Thompson agency, showed improvement over those recently used, being much more interesting than the previous slides. *Stat.*

NOW
It Is
Possible
To Get
Really

FINE TRANSCRIBED
And
LIVE PROGRAMS

Tollared to Your Measure

ROBERT EVANS
PRODUCTIONS, INC.

112 W. 57th St. PL. 9-4545

Frank Morgan Aired Renewed by American

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Frank Morgan's show continues to April with American Tobacco, thus nullifying rumors rife in the trade that he would be dropped at the end of the current cycle. Change in writing was urged by the client and agency but Morgan is standing pat on Robert Riley Cletcher. Although the rating on the show is a disappointment to American, the company would not terminate the pact several weeks ago when Morgan's agent sought his release so the actor could take another offer. The 43-week deal has used up 17 in the summer replacement spot for Jack Benny, with runoff of the ticket due next spring.

NEW DISK DICK

Chicago, Dec. 17. New transcribed detective series, starring screen star Kent Taylor, being produced by Kuttner & Kuttner here for Crest Specialty Co., to promote Spiffy cultural staydown. Tabbed "Steven Knight, Criminaloid," show is headed for 25 major markets during coming year.

WWVA, Back to CBS

CBS has re-acquired the affiliation of WWVA, Wheeling, effective next June 15. Station was part of the CBS net until May 5, 1941, when it joined the old Blue web, and is now on ABC.

Tolerance Program For Kids Introduces First Femme Jockey in Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 17. With its underlying purpose the teaching of racial tolerance and understanding of "the other fellow," a children's program featuring recorded music has been purchased by the Philadelphia Daily News for airing over WIP. The show is entitled "Kiddie's Karney" and will be broadcast on Saturdays at 11 a. m. Mrs. Helen Lipkin, veteran radio commentator and herself the mother of a three-and-a-half year old son, David, has been signed as program hostess and author. The program, featuring music designed to appeal to youngsters, makes Mrs. Lipkin one of the first women disk jockeys in Philadelphia radio.

WGNA, Chi Trib's Tele Outlet, in Spring Teef

Chicago, Dec. 17. New WGNA video outlet last week received FCC approval for new call letters. WGNA, formerly used as WGNC mobile unit which lacks on WGNC.

Construction of transmitter facilities on 22nd floor of Tribune Tower is proceeding up to schedule, according to Carl J. Meyers, director of engineering. Station expects to come into Chicago video picture by next May or June.

Radioites Appeal Court Bar, Want Equal Treatment With Newspapermen

Washington radio correspondents last week appealed to Supreme Court Chief Justice Fred Vinson and the American Bar Assn. to back them up in a fight to get equal treatment with newspaper reporters in coverage of courtroom trials.

The radio men's latest headache grew out of a ruling by Judge T. Alan Goldsborough barring location of mikes anywhere in the District Court building during the sensational trial of miners' chief John L. Lewis. Newspaper reporters were, of course, automatically given a press room and private telephone lines to their offices. Network correspondents, some of whom had maneuvered lines into the District Court building, later found themselves on the bad end of a ruling from Goldsborough barring all broadcasts from the court building.

In a letter to Justice Vinson last week, Rex Goad, president of the Radio Correspondents Assn., detailed the need of radio men to have conveniently placed microphones nearby, and asked that Mr. Vinson and other members of the Judicial Conference of Senior Circuit Judges, of which he is president, and reps of

the American Bar Assn. meet with the correspondents to hear their side of the story.

Goad said radio men had no desire to invade the courtroom itself with mikes or to make a "Roman holiday out of solemn court proceedings." That complaint, Goad said, "can be applied to sensationalizing, no matter what the media, and it arises from the character of the news coverage, not from any question of the thoroughness of its dissemination."

It was speculated that, while each judge is boss of his own court, some policy statement might ease the situation for radio men in later court cases. It was also believed that the four networks and local radio men would improve their position by offering to pool use of mikes and lines in stories like the John L. Lewis trial. The judge, it was pointed out, might have been more agreeable to the idea of mikes in the building if reps of the nets and indies had come to him in advance and suggested a cooperative handling of the facilities.

Toledo—Thomas Brerethorn has been named general manager of WTOL, Toledo, succeeding Arch Shaw, who becomes sales manager.

IT'S A "DATE
and
CAMEY!



Ever since Saturday November 30, and continuing for
eight consecutive weeks . . . Procter & Gamble's radio
show for Camay Soap, "This is Hollywood," featuring Hedda
Hopper . . . is dramatizing a Universal-International picture.

"This is Hollywood"
featuring **HEDDA HOPPER**

Every Saturday, 10:15 to 10:45 p. m. E. S. T.,
over C. B. S. Network

- Nov. 30 "Notorious Gentleman"
- Dec. 7 "The Stranger"
- Dec. 14 "So Goes My Love"
- Dec. 21 "White Tie and Tails"
- Dec. 28 "Along Came Jones"
- Jan. 4 "The Egg and I"
- Jan. 11 "Dark Mirror"
- Jan. 18 "Magnificent Doll"

New Hooper Report Shows CBS Nite Average Equals NBC's After Long Lag

CBS equalled NBC's average evening Hooperatings for the first time in three years, during the months of August and September of this year. That is one of the disclosures which C. E. Hooper is to make today (Wednesday) at a meeting in New York where he will launch his new "Comprehensive Hooperatings."

The "Comprehensive" report, included in a new 118-page report with lots of tables and charts, will be published three times a year and will be bracketed with the previously issued "Hoopering Chart-book" and "Sectional Hooperings."

Rater is putting out this new service as part of a plan to "plow back" to his customers some of the increased income resulting to the Hooper outfit from taking over of the former subscribers to Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting.

According to Hooper, the new section contains "uniform competition analysis indexes" which can be used by program producers and directors.

Series, according to the new report, still occupied 59% of daytime sponsored network time during 1946, although that was a drop by comparison with 1945 when the sponsors took up 63.9% of that time. By program types, dramas led in total evening hours in 1946 with 41.1%, against 35.4% in 1945; pop music had 13.4% of the time, against 15.7% the year before; and radio variety shows got 12.4% of evening time in 1946 by comparison with 16% the year before.

ABC Sets

Continued from page 41

"Dark Venture," which is sponsored on the Coast by Wildroot, with this sponsor holding the option for airing this show coast-to-coast in 1947: "Bride & Groom," five half-hours a week; "Ladies Be Seated," and Betty Moore 15-minute slot Saturday mornings.

With these payoffs for housebuilt shows over a year's stretch, the network feels it will be able to add at least four more shows, building them to sponsorship caliber between the first of the year and the beginning of the 1947 summer hiatus season. But to do so, it wants the scripters and staff to work cooperatively with the network, and it's willing to give these people their share of the profits to come later from sponsorship.

UNGAR'S WPBK POST

Washington, Dec. 17. Henry Z. Ungar, radio and advertising man for the past 23 years, was linked with WPBK, Alexandria, Va. as sales manager.

Ungar comes to WPBK from 514 years in radio sales at WGBN, Youngstown, O., and previously headed sales at WSPD, Toledo, O. WPBK celebrated its first year anniversary on the air last week.

Politico Chats

Continued from page 39

concerns their own distributability. This is tough too, since most of the hot issues handled on their transcripts are extremely topical and won't hold up for delayed use.

Experience of Edward Hart & Assoc., is significant since Hart, who started the business in 1944, the vet among the platter fraternity. Hart now showcases two shows a week, and is sponsored by Washington Post stations WINX and WINX-FM. He peaks at the end of the show in disk form outside of Washington. The oldest is a 15-minute discussion show, "Is This Great Doing Its Job?" which features top names on some hot issue. Hart recently premiered a 30-minute combination forum-audience participation show, "It Seems to Us."

For the first time, Hart has engaged a second party, Public Relations Assoc., Inc., to handle distribution of this show. Rates on these platters range from \$10 to \$50 a piece and for the 30-minute show from \$15 to \$150, depending on the size of the audience. Hart considers his contract to air his shows live over WINX a real money-maker in getting big-name talent. The only time he really hits the big money, however, is when he gets a big-name talent and buys up copies to distribute free to producers.

Another service Trans-Action, Inc., is the latest entrant to the field. This outfit is headed by Selden K. Selden, a former big-name talent. The only time he really hits the big money, however, is when he gets a big-name talent and buys up copies to distribute free to producers.

Member also undertakes individual assignments for subscribers. KXLA, Los Angeles; KXA, Seattle; KSPF, San Francisco, and WQQW, Washington are among his subscribers. All his disks are geared for sponsorship and much of the publicity is angled to sponsors' pocketbooks.

Newsmen Slim Sutin and Earle Steele have also taken to wax with a 15-minute weekly slot called "Littin' the Lid," which has them interviewing a Washington blight on some news-behind-the news angle. The duo authors a newspaper column of the same name which is circulated in the deep South. They are trying to gear their radio shows, however, for wider distribution. "Littin' the Lid" goes over WPBK, Alexandria, Va. each Sunday in platter form.

Minnesota Fare

Another radio production unit with a different approach will debut in January, under the moniker "Representative Opinion." Len Doran and L. A. Marsden, who market a similarly-named newspaper column among a dozen Minnesota weeklies, are the entrepreneurs. Their format calls for a 15-minute, non-controversial platter giving in platter form the views of the entire Minnesota Congressional delegation on a single important issue. Usually, they are peddling the show on Minnesota alone, but hope later on to do the same thing for the neighboring states of Michigan and Wisconsin. So long as the Congressmen cooperate, the boys figure they'll make a go of the platter project.

A different type of production is turned out by Shannon Allen, former radio chief at the Dept. of Interior. He deals only with agencies and organizations, not with stations directly. Allen is currently producing a platter series for the National Education Assoc. and the National Committee on Atomic Energy. Unlike the other platter producers, his shows are usually implementing a campaign of one sort or another and are not undertaken without cash on the line.

Agricultural news is also served up on radio disks here by the NCA News Syndicate, which publishes a farm news report and as a by-product of that service transcribes farm shows for rural stations.

L. A. LONGHAIRS ON MBS

Mutual has signed the Los Angeles Symphonic Band for a half-hour show, Saturdays at 4 p.m., sustaining, beginning Jan. 4. Conductors on the show will alternate and will include Dave Ross, Meredith Willson, Otto Klemperer, and Harry Zimmerman.

WEAW Set for Preem

Chicago, Dec. 17.

New station, WEAW, FM setup, first to be built in Chicago metropolitan area since outbreak of war, started to begin operation on Jan. 15.

Situated in Evanston, north side suburb, commercial outlet plans at least 52 hours on the air weekly at start.

PRF

Continued from page 38

music composed by Elmer Bernstein, who has directed the plot of the show with simplicity that gave dignity to the content. The mixed cast of 12 voices and whistles, handled skillfully, punching the content home without histrionics.

"Columbia" is a more ambitious, more complicated piece of dramatic documentary. As presented before a live audience, it was effective enough. But part of the effect came from the massing of a mixed cast of 18 male and female, Negro and white.

Whether that effect would be achieved as well over the air, and whether that kind of effect would be needed or even feasible in a radio studio under actual broadcast conditions, that was not set up.

Fact is, however, that "Columbia" was a much longer documentary than usually presented on the air, even on so-called "ideological" shows. Timmons' job as scripter was made with faithful reportage Jack Crogan directed he played the same sense of integration, and outstanding in the large cast were Gordon Heath as narrator, and Christopher, Evelyn Grillo, and Albert Remais. Most of the cast were pros, either from the American Negro Theatre or New York Player's Guild, with a few amateurs.

Weakest part of the show was the running continuity which was intended to be critical of commercial radio as in the point being that PRF would do away with all that kind of stuff. Far from being a criticism of the radio business, however, this part was only a caricature, and not a very good one, most of the time taking a straw man set up for the purpose of being knocked down that he was pathetic rather than the "menace" the producers intended him to be.

There were others who wringed, but these were mainly the result of first-nightism and growing pains. On the whole, however, PRF showed that it is a real creation, at least from the viewpoint of showmanship. If it ever got the chance to broadcast, there is one modification, however. That's true of "heavy" drama and documentary material only. Whether PRF could do any of the lighter types of radio, which would be needed for program balance—that's still to be seen.

The outfit has already scheduled several repeats of its opening night program, and is planning a series of other events, including production of plays by Norman Corwin, Arch Oboler and Miltard Lampell between now and spring. Carz.

San Antonio—John Harper, formerly staff announcer with WKY, Oklahoma City, has joined the announcing staff of KABC here.

WFIL Combines With

Temple on Extensive Instruction Program

Philadelphia, Dec. 17. Aimed at providing students with a complete background for work in radio broadcasting, Temple Univ. and stations WFIL and WFIL-FM have launched an extensive program, including the university's new department of Radio, Speech, Dramatics. Classes will begin Feb. 17, with a roster of 17 radio courses, 11 courses in theatre, and six in speech training.

The curriculum was outlined by Armand Hunter, chairman of the new department, following conferences with Dr. Robert L. Johnson, president of Temple, and Roger W. Clapp, general manager of WFIL and WFIL-FM. Hunter formerly headed the radio institute and the department of radio at Northwestern Univ.

Graduates of the four-year course will receive a bachelor of preparing degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Other Temple students will be offered radio-theatre subjects as electives. Course titles range from radio announcing and radio writing to station management.

According to Hunter, students will receive a background of programs for broadcast on the Temple campus at first, and following through with such phases as traffic, sales, promotion, and management.



on the ball

This lad is ready for the ball and it looks as if he is going to drive a long one. Weed men are always "on the ball" and they hit all prospects hard and often.

WEED
AND COMPANY

RADIO STATION REPRESENTATIVES
New York • Boston • Chicago • Miami
Detroit • San Francisco • Hollywood

"1996"

"Cavalcade of Piano"

Twenty-six transcribed episodes, each episode fifteen minutes continuous piano music, different American artists.

Here are a few stations using this show.

WTAL, Tallahassee, Fla. WFN, Findlay, Ohio.
WKBN, New Britain, Conn. WDFW, Champaign, Ill.
WBBB, Burlington, N. C. KRM, Bozeman, Mont.
KVOX, Moorhead, Minn. KIUL, Garden City, Kans.

THE W. E. LONG CO. Radio Division

155 North Clark Street, Chicago 1, Illinois

"1996"

Showmanship...

the first prerequisite of successful public contact—

including broadcasting—is constantly evident

in the skilled programming and exploitation

of WWJ features. This combination of

science and artistry has won outstanding

audience loyalty for WWJ during the past

46 years... maintaining the leadership

expected from the first radio station in the

national! A pioneer always, WWJ will be on

the air with the best division through

its sister station, WDDT. Obviously

advertisers can anticipate—and are

assured—impressive results from sales

messages which capitalize on WWJ's

penetration of America's big market!

NBC Radio Network
Associate FM Station WDBA

950 KILOCYCLES
5000 WATTS

AMERICA'S PIONEER BROADCASTING STATION—First in Detroit

National Representatives: THE GEORGE H. HOLMBOEG COMPANY

OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE DETROIT NEWS

Inside Stuff—Radio

Two New York indies and a third radio outfit in the would-be stage are collaborating with the newspaper PM in helping raise funds for Sydenham hospital, a Manhattan institution, which is outstanding in its inter-racial work. PM is trying to help raise \$300,000 for the hospital and has assigned its chief editor, Richard Yaffe, to devote three full weeks to this effort. Helping the drive will be WNEW, WHN and the People's Radio Foundation. Latter is an organization trying to break into radio via the PM route.

Most ambitious effort will be conducted on WNEW which will give up an entire 24 hours' programming to the fund raising job. Campaign will be on off at 1201 a.m. Friday, (20) on Art Ford's "Milkman's Matinee" all night show, and will continue throughout the full 24 hours.

WHN will give up its late-night "Glowing Dodgers" show on Christmas Day, running from 1 to 5 p.m., to plug the hospital drive. PRF, having no transmitter, will do its stuff in the Radio City and Times Square areas through sound tracks, getting radio and stage people to appear for fund-raising.

WHK (Cleveland) early a.m. show, "Georgia Cracker," plus its opposite number on WGAR, "Mayor of the Morning," got lots of local publicity as a result of a gag started by Cleveland Press radio ed Stan Anderson. A couple of weeks ago, Anderson took a mild crack at early morning shows in his column, declaring that no one listened anyway until 9 a.m. WHK hack chief Saul Glantz challenged Anderson, and the latter announced he would like them to look for "Cracker" to telephone him at some time between 6:15 and 7 a.m. WGAR's Bill Mayer then jumped on the bandwagon too.

Result was that in one day Anderson was swamped with phone calls, 150 of them getting through to his home, and 721 more—by telephone company count—failing to connect because of busy signals.

Glantz is cashing in on the "Cracker" by following through with a contest aimed over the "Cracker" stanza, on "Why I Listen To Early Morning Radio Programs."

Dorothy Thackeray, publisher of the New York Post and licensee of WLIB, N. Y., is by way of being a part time Broadway angel. It was learned in Washington (18), Mrs. Thackeray has \$8,000 stock in the Playwrights Producing Co., a \$5,000 stock in the American Repertory Theatre and a \$20,100 partnership interest in the GI Play, "Call Me Mister." Mrs. Thackeray's theatre holdings were revealed in a balance sheet presented over an FCC hearing in which she is seeking nighttime operation and added power on WLIB's present frequency. The WLIB application is being opposed by Western Union Radio Stations, which wants a boost to 50 kw as its o. n. station WOWO, Ft. Wayne, Ind., on the same frequency.

Writers' Board radio committee sending out countryside reprints of Vanary's Nov. 6 editorial, entitled "Diagram for Danger," with this comment: "The very term stereotype suggests another word, cliché. A writer's use of a cliché is an open confession of lack of imagination, or maybe just mental laziness. The stereotype is the inescapable mark of the hack. It's not only dangerous, but corny as hell."

Fred Robbins Gets CBS

Col. Record Shop Show

Fred Robbins, WOV's (N. Y.) "1200 Club" disk jockey, moves into the Columbia Record Shop Show on CBS starting Jan. 11, at successor to Martin Block. Latter recently switched to the Coast and although originally it was planned for Block to do the show via lines from his New York studio, network execs reportedly had a change of heart and lined up Robbins for the Saturday afternoon slot.

Robbins was picked for the emcee show on the basis of a poll taken during a recent Robbins vs. Block "week preview" among a group of Philadelphia collegians, latter expressing a preference for the Robbins pelviser.

New York—University of Michigan won the annual Sports Broadcasters Assn. award for the best facilities for college football, at the Great organization's meeting at the Great Northern hotel, N. Y., Monday (18).

A TIP FOR CHRISTMAS

LISTEN KIDDIES

1. Take upon a time there was a little actor — who was a little actor and he bought a seat on the New York Stock Exchange — and he became a broker — but he kept on acting, too, because he loved it.

2. The other little actors and actresses fancied that he had got the magic key to wealth and if he would only give them a tip, they would all become rich.

3. He knew that his beloved show-folk lost their hard-earned money too regularly and so, in answer to their entreaties, he gave them the magic formula.

It was a motto to be used in ALL financial matters. He had it printed in Variety, a little story book but his playmates he knew loved to read it.

He said — — —
"WHEN EVERYONE IS TRYING TO SELL
THAT'S THE TIME TO BUY
WHEN EVERYONE IS TRYING TO BUY
THAT'S THE TIME TO SELL."
And he signed his name

George Price

Kingdon

Continued from page 38

up period as a sustainer on WOR, from Aug. 12 to Sept. 1, and went sponsored by Crawford on the latter date. His WOR time was 6-6:15 p.m. Meanwhile, he was going to continue his Crawford-sponsored show on WMCA at 10:30 p.m. nightly.

Straus, however, didn't want Kingdon to follow himself, feeling that WMCA would "get the crumbs" if he carried Kingdon on a late spot more than four hours after the same man had spoken over WOR. Straus let Kingdon out. In the ensuing recriminations, Stark cut Crawford clothes and billings amounting to \$100,000 on WMCA, pulled all its radio work out of that station because it would not carry Kingdon.

Kingdon built his WOR spot from 23 ratings (by Pulse, of N. Y.) into a 33. But last week he was notified that he was through as of Dec. 20. Reason was that Crawford cancelled, after three months, on Nov. 28. Crawford didn't like the 6 p. m. spot for its top gabber, feeling that was too early an hour for a sponsor with an appeal to men, since Crawford is a men's clothing outfit.

Unlike similar occurrences in the past, in which the sponsor goes through the motions of being "sorry" for losing a radio property, the Crawford people, through Al Paul Letton agency, are known to have made a real effort to place Kingdon elsewhere. They offered him to every one of the New York stations, including flagship networks. But nobody could find the right time spot for Kingdon.

WOR, disregarding all criticisms from sources who boiled about Kingdon's dismissal, put the matter on a straight dollar-and-cents basis, saying in effect "get us a sponsor, and we'll be happy to carry him."

Straus said that WMCA would be very happy to find a good time spot

Murrow Nixes DX As Prime Factor In International Good Will Radio

for Kingdon, but only if he's sponsored. In other words, Straus is through paying out sustaining money for Kingdon.

Meanwhile, Kingdon stays on his Sunday morning WOR time, on which Pulse of N. Y. gives him a rating of 8.

Kingdon also got himself in wrong with some radio people for a statement attributed to him by the N. Y. Post. What happened was that Kingdon did make that statement, but it was supposed to be off-the-record, and there was a slip which got the direct quote into print. As it got in, slightly cleaned up, the quote read:

"If heavy income is the only point of view that's welcome on the air—because WOR puts this thing on a strictly commercial basis—then radio is just a prostitute to be purchased by the highest bidder. This ties in with the firing of other liberal commentators at other times. According to WOR's own statement, there is no mood of public service left in radio."

WOR's statement was to the effect that George Carson Putnam is taking over the 6 p. m. spot because, since no sponsor could be found for Kingdon, the station thinks "that Putnam, with straight news rather than comment, would be more salable."

Paul Gould's New Job
Paul Gould, for the last year music director for WMCA, N. Y., has resigned, effective January 1, to take over as executive vicepres and station manager of WINY, Hempstead, N. Y.

Before coming to WMCA, Gould was vice-president and studio manager for WLIB, N. Y.

Dependence upon shortwave broadcasting as the principal medium of international cooperation via radio was knocked down last week by Edward R. Murrow, CBS vesper director of public affairs. In fact, said Murrow, the spread of the "freedom of information" principle around the world is likely to decrease shortwave listening rather than hypo that method of radio reception.

Murrow was one of a number of speakers a week ago (10) at sixth Nobel annl dinner at the Astor, N. Y., others on the program being Norman Corwin, Hal Wallis, Pearl Buck, etc.

"The least amount of shortwave listening occurs today," said Murrow, "in countries which have the greatest amount of freedom of expression. . . . Where national activity exists in it: shortwave field, too much attention is given to the production of programs directed for selfish aims to economic and political targets."

The most effective way to project a country radio-wise, said Murrow, is through correspondents for one country reporting over the radio from other countries.

To accomplish such a purpose, Murrow suggested that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization set up an International Agency of Radio Art. Such an academy, he said, would gather, collate and disseminate program material about all nations to all nations, and would arrange tours of foreign countries for radio correspondents who would return home and "report on their domestic networks in their own method and with their own program techniques."

“**WORLD**”*

said one sponsor, when we told him the other day . . .

1. that WOR reaches 16 cities of more than 100,000 people each.

2. that the WOR area contains 65,000 farms — 284 of which are in New York City!

3. that WOR delivers 32 trading areas with 25,000 to 100,000 people each.

4. that the 18,000 people in the WOR territory have a spendable income of more than 26 billions!

*don't know why; we've been that way for years.

Mutual

Fancy-Pants Figures No FCC Help, New Applicants Told 'Stay Simple'

Washington, Dec. 17. Bidders for new radio stations had better steer clear of complicated engineering plans or give up all hope of getting speedy FCC action on their requests. FCC officials said much here last Friday (13) when it put out a "burr" call for help from industry engineers in processing a batch of complicated applications, most of them requests to operate stations nighttime on regional or clear channels.

Commission said its own limited

staff was unable to pare down the heavy backlog of such bids. About 122 of these requests have been at FCC offices for approximately a year, which the staff has not even begun to process. Simpler requests, FCC said, have been disposed of in from 60 to 90 days.

Commission said several industry men had come up with suggestions whereby they would take over some of the commission's work, at least until such time as FCC staff gets its head above water.

FCC GRANT SPURS KSD \$1,000,000 PROGRAM

St. Louis, Dec. 17. FCC has granted KSD, owned and operated by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Pulitzer), an increase in nighttime power from 1,000 to 5,000 watts and the station will erect a new transmitting plant and aerial system as part of a \$1,000,000 expansion program. KSD officials estimate the power increase will give 180% better nighttime reception. The new transmitting system will consist of four 450-foot steel towers, one of which will be used for 5,000-watt daytime broadcasting. All four towers will be used at night for directional broadcasting.

Fight on Tele

Continued from page 46

of Motion Picture Engineers and Croley Radio Corp., the only voters for the RCA-type "simultaneous" system. For other FCC members, including RCA, wanted more study on other systems before FCC decision is made.

Meanwhile, these were the developments at last week's hearing: RCA vicepres. C. B. Jolliffe spearheaded the industry drive against CBS color with charges that commercialization of this system "might blind the public to all television now and for some time to come." Jolliffe claimed higher costs, duller, less reliable pictures, wider channel widths and more difficulties in networking for CBS type of color as contrasted to RCA's proposal for simultaneous television pictures. Jolliffe said it would be four years before the simultaneous color system would be ready for the public.

Jolliffe was upheld by Dave Smith of Philco, chairman of the RTPB Television Panel; Jack Popple, president of the Television Broadcasters Assn.; Donald Fink, of Radio Manufacturers Assn.; and reps of Farnsworth Television and Radio Corp.; Emerson Radio Corp.; and Thomsen, Inc., producers of color photographs and films.

Equally warm support for Columbia's position came from a smaller segment of the industry, represented by Westinghouse; T. A. M. Craven, vice-president of the Cowles Broadcasting Co.; Zenith Radio Corp.; Federal Telephone and Radio Corp.; Bendix Aviation Corp.; and Federal Telecommunications Co. The last three companies have licenses to build CBS-type video equipment.

Craven urged the FCC not to foster monopoly in a few black-and-white television licensees but to open a competing system of color television upstarts. J. E. Brown, of Zenith, said his company would turn in its black-and-white broadcast permit in Chicago and produce only color receivers, if FCC gives the word. Westinghouse's Ted Harmon told the FCC that, dollar for dollar, the CBS system of color would give the public a real signal than the RCA-simultaneous color process.

Representatives of Continental Television Corp. took a unique position and claimed that much was needed in the way of improvement of present black-and-white pictures and on monochrome and video upstarts. They kept mum on any recommendations other than those for additional research in the entire spectrum ranges.

N. Y. Fire

Continued from page 46

video execs, that the medium will offer increasingly stiff competition to newsmen. Competition probably won't be felt too much for the next year but it's something that the reels will have to take into consideration when tele receiving sets become as numerous as the country's motion picture theatres.

Although ABC cameramen were the first on the scene at the tentment fire, getting there at about 7:30 a.m., NBC succeeded in getting its film on the air first—about five minutes of pictures at 7:50 Thursday night. Taken under the supervision of Paul Alley, the film was carried on a sustaining basis. NBC also took followup shots on Friday, getting them on the air Friday night.

ABC gave the event the widest coverage, shooting at the scene all day and hitting the air (via WABD-Mont. N.Y.) at 8:30 Thursday night. Bud Postle directed the cameramen. In a rapid deal, ABC tele chief Paul Mowrey succeeded in getting U. S. Rubber to sponsor pictures, with the sponsor agreeing to only a mention on the credits. CBS got its pictures on the air at 8:15 p.m. as a sustainer, timing the film in with a live interview of Thomas J. Hughes, housing consultant and in charge of finding homes for the displaced persons.

ABC's films of the train wreck were carried on WABD Saturday afternoon. Web's radio affiliate in Mandel, WYAM, broadcast a request for film the day of the wreck and succeeded in rounding up several hundred feet, which were rushed to N.Y. by specially-chartered plane. WJZ, the web's N.Y. key radio station, broadcast the plugs that the film would be telecast.

N.Y. News Pushes FM Demand in FCC Brief

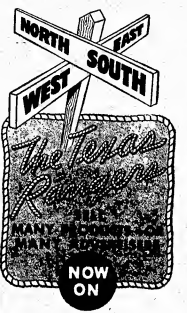
Washington, Dec. 17. In the strongest industry stand yet made against a purported FCC move to include the program field, counsel for the New York Daily News last week charged that the commission will have exceeded its legal authority if it denies the newspaper an FM station because of its editorial policies.

The charge that FCC is endangering a free press was contained in a 50-page brief filed by the 'News' attorney, Louis Caldwell. Brief was an answer to charges of the American Jewish Committee that the News was anti-Semitic and anti-Negro, and carried an undue proportion of crime and sex stories. Withdrawal of Dorothy Thacker's New York Post from the FM race in New York pares number of bidders to 16 for the city's five channels.

Kraft Hall Shuttle Set

With Mills-Cole Switch

The Mills Bros. go into Kraft Music Hall Jan. 9, replacing the King Cole Trio, and thereby reaffirming two of the show's principal components. The other is the already announced fact that Eddie Foy, Jr., is going in for Edward Everett Horton. Horton, incidentally, is commuting to the show these weeks from Canada, where he is on tour in the "Springtime for Henry" legler. And the King Cole Trio is exciting in a blaze of glory, having been promoted in the January issue of Esquire mag.



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Soprano

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CELANESE
NBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

"Emma Otero, soprano, ran from coloratura to contralto on her Sunday (25) broadcast on NBC with an orchestra under H. Leopold Spitalny. The South American singer exhibited voice and artistry seldom heard from even the top notch singers of the day... 'The Shadow of the Past,' a Russian folk song, sung in that language with all the plaintive emotion required and with excellent diction... aria from 'Der Flenderman' with brilliant runs and cadenzas, and impeccable accuracy as to pitch. Two Spanish numbers concluded the program marked by brilliant top tones."

VARIETY.

CONCERT

"The audience loved her voice and applauded her to the echo."
BOSTON HERALD.

"Emma Otero sang right into your heart. Her technical flights, even in the extreme upper register, continue to maintain a full, round quality."
PROVIDENCE, R. I. JOURNAL.

"The Otero voice is beautifully fresh, flexible and of remarkable range."
N. Y. AMERICAN.

"Emma Otero is in many respects the best equipped soprano now before the American public."
CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

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RCA Signing of Basie, Tony Martin Sparks Wrangle Over Contracts

There's been quite a to-do over the switch by RCA-Victor of Count Basie's orchestra, the question for it of how actually deserted Columbia Records and gone to Victor, Basie and his manager, Milt Ebbins, are said to have flatly denied to Columbia that they had made a deal with Victor following the revelation of it last week. The fact was, this feeling was shared by a number of others who would have reason to know. Meanwhile, RCA and the William Morris office, which books Basie, have definitely confirmed the move.

It seems that Milt Ebbins, Basie's personal manager, verbally okayed the Victor offer after the fact. The latter in the Coast office of the William Morris agency, Weisbord relayed it to Morris' N. Y. headquarters, and the latter in turn advised Victor that everything was okay. But Basie hadn't signed the contract. As a result, Basie thereafter balked, but that as at yesterday (Tuesday) the contract was being prepared and it was expected in its formal signing.

Basie left Columbia because of the latter's refusal to give him the sort of a financial deal he figured he rated. His old price on that label called for \$400 a side against the usual of the Columbia price (retail) of a record. How much more Columbia bid for the band is undisclosed. Meanwhile, Ebbins said to have offered and closed with Basie on a two-year deal on the basis of \$100 a side against the same royalty arrangement. That's a lot of cash at any period in recording, which was as good as a record being drawn from major disks.

In switching to Victor, Basie takes over where Duke Ellington left off for that label. Ellington is now with Musicraft on a deal by which he can earn himself \$100,000 in the next year with albums and individual releases.

Meanwhile, another explosion had taken over Victor's roundup of new artists. Mercury Records, which has a contract with Tony Martin under contract but will lose him later in 1947 when the agreement expires, is emphatically stating that the singer has no deal with Victor. As a matter of fact, Martin signed a two-year deal with Victor on Dec. 3. His agreement with Mercury, which had paid him according to Berle Adams, Mercury exec, a total of \$53,800 in royalties for the period ending 15 to Oct. 31, was for 24 records, no options, it's claimed, and that is ineffective as soon as those three disks are completed.

Lombardo Can Now Hold Up His Head

Among Swing Makers

Probably the last thing that anyone would think of doing was that Lombardo is making loud noises or disturbing the peace, but that was the bid for a city that has seen the disappearance of Lombardo's band in Times Square last Saturday (14) night.

Lombardo originally was to serenade into limbo of lost trolleys the street car to run on Broadway, where he was intended to be seen. Verbal permission had been given by the band by the mayor's office, but at the last minute, O'Dwyer told Vctor McQuiston, president of the Third Ave. Transit Co., the presence of the band would be in violation of city ordinance prohibiting undue noise on the street after 11 p.m. and before 6 a.m. Apparently, the police were of the fact that the crowds attracted would block Times Square traffic.

However, Lombardo (minus band) together with Janis Paele, Kenny Delmar, and George Carson Putnam were on hand for the ceremonies.

Long With Signature

Johnny Long's orchestra, which recently got a release from a Decca contract, signed with Signature label last week and did its first date in N. Y. yesterday (Tuesday). Band drew a term deal, the length of which is undisclosed.

Long is currently at the Commodore Hotel, N. Y., where he's displaced tomorrow (Thursday) night by Ray McKinley.

SPA-MPPA Extend

Old Pact 30 Days

While Sparring

Representatives of the Songwriters Protective Assn. and members of the Music Publishers Protective Assn. last week were a bit more aggressive during their second meeting last Wednesday (11) to negotiate a new contract. Enough time was taken between words, however, to extend the expiration date of the existing agreement between them one month with the provision that whatever conclusions are reached when the new deal is finally set will be retroactive to the original expiration date (Dec. 31).

Dispute between the factions was mainly between two men, Edgar Leslie, for the writers, and Saul Bornstein for the publishers. Leslie was taken aback against giving the pubs any right to ask without the consent of the writers any free use of his material. Bornstein said he would not vary grant them for the simple reason that if they didn't they'd get the music. Leslie fought almost all afternoon against giving pubs full control over these occasional occurrences, but finally agreed to it. This took up almost all of the meeting time.

There is no date set for a third meeting, but the problem because of the imminence of the holidays.

BRITISH BANDLEADERS YEN MORE RADIO DOUGH

London, Dec. 10. London band leaders have joined forces to get the British Broadcasting Corp. to pay them bigger fees for broadcasting. They've formed a small committee which will ask the music union to push them to the BBC to raise their radio pay.

Although fees paid by the BBC are larger than those paid by other stations, the British leaders are still small, with the BBC maintaining that the advertising value of the broadcasts is not commensurate with the number of bands the small fees.

More than 25 bands have combined in lodging their complaint.

L.A. Sepia Musikers Re-Elect Local Tops

Los Angeles, Dec. 17. All officers of Negro Musicians' Local 747 were returned to posts another year at last week's election. Prexy Ed Bailey was polled into the top spot for the third year. Other officials re-named include Lee Davis, v.p.; Florence Cadore, recording secretary; Paul Brown, local secretary; Leonard Davidson, sergeant-at-arms. Bailey, Howard and Cadore were all candidates for re-election to next year's American Federation of Musicians' national convention.

Unfortunately, voters probably were lightest in Local's history. Of approximately 800 members, only 185 showed up the polls.

Four Knights, Negro quartet, long on the way through a long-term pact with Decca and have already cut eight sides for the diskery.

While the recent breakup of various music theaters has scared many within the band business, it has achieved one result that in the end will very likely prove a blessing. There is at the moment an abundance of good musicians available at greatly reduced salary quotations—for the first time since the war. Bandleaders looking for replacements men say they can take their pick at any reasonable price.

Though bandleaders dislike seeing so many bands fall apart, because of the "black eye" it gives the business, they feel that if the situation can achieve, through reduced salary demands by musicians, greatly reduced costs of operation for the average orchestra, the business will go a long way in setting its house in order to combat the month-old b. slump. They feel that as a result of the trend top bands will shortly be able to field an outfit for less than \$2,500 weekly as against much higher current costs.

Incidentally, many top bandleaders who have been experiencing difficulty with operating costs have been disappointed over the failure of the expected young flood of neo-to-be bandleaders to do much to help. Many had predicted during the war, as a result of playing Army and Navy units, that the country would be listening to camp bands, that musicians who were being trained and developed during the war would be working with service orchestras, would make the postwar band business a haven of new, capable faces. Many of these men had never played with professional bands, others had been out of the business for a brief time before joining uniforms.

The conclusion is that a major portion of them headed home after discharge and the new crop of talent buried in small towns unaware or uninterested in whatever talent they might have.

James May Come East Again in Feb.

Harry James, who for the past few years has confined his eastern work-journeys to comparatively brief midsummer periods, may head for the New York area sometime in February. Music Corp. of America, which manages James, has been endeavoring to get him east to work this winter since he has no interfering engagements, and it is believed James is said to be amenable to the idea — if bookings and money for him are right.

Exactly what sort of bookings James wants isn't clear. It's very probable, however, that location jobs would be included. As for one nighters, the taste of James' in-and-out tour last summer, when he started quite a to-do about high salaries, has not yet worn off. He got \$4,000 guarantees on those dates, and the fact that he was in bad weather plagued him in a few important spots, the \$4,000 asking price for the tour was not a bad thing that he didn't pay up at the b.o.

MCA would also like to get James to work theatre this trip.

English music publisher

Reg Connolly

is a sloughly-captured entity on

"British Mus-Biz"

reviews the popular music industry

in Britain

an editorial feature

of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Contactmen Union Finds Publishers

Lethargic in Launching of Move to Payola; Seek U. S. Treasury Aid

MCA Plugs New Band

MCA Corp. of America is beginning to ease east a new band in which it is putting a lot of interest. Combo being pushed is mastered by Jack Fina, a pianist sideman for years in various bands. It goes into the Palmer House, Chicago, March 30 for 12 weeks and will thereafter be brought into N. Y.

Fina outfit is now on the Coast, where it originated. It's a semi-week group of 14 men plus leader.

ASCAP Members Okay Amendment

On Third Try

Publisher and writer members of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers have finally voted into the Society's by-laws an amendment that its executives have been endeavoring to put through for three years. A new amendment passed yesterday (Tues.) when the ballots were counted, by more than the necessary two-thirds vote, although any session of the director board to make a final decision on the delayed problem since ASCAP meetings are almost never attended by the same men twice in succession.

ASCAP had tried twice before to put the amendment through, and each time it was defeated. Last time it was sponsored by Saul Bornstein. This time president Deems Taylor's name was attached.

Berb Hendler, head of artists and repertoire of Cosmopolitan Records, virtually since the firm's inception, broke his record for a while when he was unable to collect his three weeks' salary.

HENDLER QUILTS COSMO AFTER PAYOFF SNAG

Herb Hendler, head of artists and repertoire of Cosmopolitan Records, virtually since the firm's inception, broke his record for a while when he was unable to collect his three weeks' salary.

Hendler quit for contract work for three years and still had two years to go. In addition to the salary owed him, Hendler has around \$2,500 brought in on a percentage of Cosmo's earnings.

Indie Disk Co-op Plan Dies; Biz Looks Black

Hollywood, Dec. 10. Plan fostered by Jewel Record pres. Ben Pollock, by which group of small odd-label Co-op waxeries might cut overhead by pooling warehousing and shipping, foundered last week. Pollock originally interested nine other indie in collecting their percentages, and after several meetings with rivals, matter was brought up to as how much of the number one of the cooperative would put up to participate.

Pollock suggested \$500 from each label, but after much debate only one recorder, Crest, agreed. Thereafter idea flickered out, and as a result trade talk hangs these days as to just how bad has become for the small waxeries here.

Claude Thornhill's orchestra plays its first New York theatre since its reorganization following the leader's May discharge, at Strand, opening Feb. 14.

Muscle Publishers Contact Employees has launched its long-promised move against payola racket, and it is finding a lethargic reaction to its ideas from major music publishers. Some time ago the MPCE's council had decided that the time was ripe to do something about the constant beefs from certain publishers that paying was still going on, despite the installation of the Pestman method of plug-measure, designed originally to halt the payola. One of its ideas is to elect a music bookkeeper.

Last week the MPCE circulated all publishers on ideas formulated at a recent council meet. These ideas strong (1) to see Government aid in the enforcement of Paragraphs eight and nine (in MPCE bylaws, which forbid paying practices) (2) was taken to mean bringing the Treasury Department into the picture on music exchange bands, which the recipients probably do not declare as income; (3) to designate a committee to police the industry, and (3) if both proposals are or are rejected, then to seriously consider the majority of paragraphs eight and nine.

All three points are considered drastic by most music men, but the smaller publishers, who claim that the Pestman system works in favor of larger pubs and against them, are entirely for the first or second. However, many of which have not answered the letter sent them by the MPCE. The latter's reply, however, revealed an, opinions on the subject. They feel that the problem is concerning only the smaller publishers, and they do not intend taking a hand at the moment.

However, some of the majors figure they may eventually be forced to step into the picture. One of the number one publishers for most months been openly distributing compensation in various forms in exchange for plugs, a move he had threatened for some time. If the latter's new practice brings to a halt in which, incidentally, most of the beefs small firms would probably be forced out of biz.

Glenn Miller Name Still Potent Factor

To Text Benke Band

Tex Benke and Don Haynes, his manager, aren't so anxious to drop the Glenn Miller name from the front of their band as they once got out of service. It has been the intention of everyone concerned in the operation, since its formation slightly more than a year ago, to let the Miller name go. The Benke name was sufficiently well established. Buyers of the band, however, think the Miller name is a money-maker. It's likely to be some time before Miller's name disappears from the band's billing.

Haynes is the chief of the band for a theatre day in a major city, to be played in '47. When he signed the contract, Haynes struck out of the number one of the Benke booking tag and substituted "Tex Benke and his orchestra." Promptly the Benke name was taken out of the theatre operator declaring, by his action, that he want sure of the Benke name. He was sure of the combined two names. Haynes promptly agreed to the Benke name and later changed his mind about dropping Miller's name until he's quite certain it won't be missed.

Phil Harris

now on
RCA VICTOR
Records!

bringing you 3 of
his famous hits...
plus a brand-new
nickel grabber!

The
Dark Town
Poker Club

RCA VICTOR
20-2075

That's
What I Like
About
the South

RCA VICTOR
20-2089

Woodman
Spare That
Tree

If
You're Ever
Down in Texas,
Look Me Up

THE STARS WHO MAKE THE HITS ARE ON



RCA VICTOR
RECORDS



Hands—and Hits—Across Two Continents!



The Peter Maurice Music Ltd.
 MAURICE BUILDING
 21 DENMARK ST.
 LONDON W.C.2

327/MY

Mr. Lou Levy,
 Leeds Music Corporation,
 1270, Sixth Avenue,
 NEW YORK, U.S.A.

6th December, 1946.

Dear Lou,

Well, we've done it! It's an accomplished fact! Whilst everybody was talking about Anglo-American co-operation, you established The Peter Maurice Music Co. in New York, and we set up Leeds, Ltd. of London, and our hands met across the sea.

Looking back on the year I think we can both congratulate ourselves. The plug on "THE OYCE" and "IT'S A PITY TO SAY GOODNIGHT" with Leeds, and "UNDER THE WILLAW TREE" and the new song "I'LL CLOSE MY EYES" with the American, Peter Maurice is outstanding.

If you were over here now you would hear an echo of all your recent hits in almost every country in Europe. "DOWN IN THE VALLEY", "HEAR-DA-BA-BA-BO", "ONE MAY SALLY", "PUT ANOTHER CHAIR AT THE TABLE", and "I LOVE YOU" are all big here, and the new song "I'LL CLOSE MY EYES" is crazy about.

With such a grand start for the first nine months of our cooperation there is no reason why 1947 shouldn't be terrific.

I hope "Lord" Happy today is wearing that monocle I sent him. He deserves a Knighthood for the grand work he has done for our American firm.

Peter Maurice joins with Bill Phillips, the Professional Manager of Leeds Music Ltd., and all of us here in sending very best wishes to you, George and your fine crowd at New York.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely

Jimmy Phillips
 J.J. PHILLIPS.

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LEEDS MUSIC CORPORATION
 REO Building • Radio City • New York 20 • Circle 7-2670

December 10, 1946

Mr. J.J. Phillips
 The Peter Maurice Music Co. Ltd.
 Maurice Building
 21 Denmark Street
 London W.C. 2
 England

Dear Jimmy:

I have your exciting letter of December 6th, and it isn't easy to put into words what I feel about the wonderful job you have done for Leeds Ltd. in London and on the continent.

As I have turned each week to the Variety and Billboard charts, I have been filled with admiration for your success in constantly keeping several Leeds' songs among England's top hits.

THE OYCE, which Peter Maurice gave to us in America, has finished 1946 as the top song of the year — in sheet music sales, in radio plays, and in record sales. Among other prizes, the Ink Spots recording of THE OYCE was just this week chosen as the best money-making record of the year by the American Music Industry of America.

We are all tremendously elated by the swift progress of the Peter Maurice ballad "I'LL CLOSE MY EYES", and feel that the song will go over the top as the New Year folk song of the year. The English reception of (I LOVE YOU) FOR SENTIMENTAL REASONS, which is now up among the first ten songs in the United States.

Hands across the sea, and the best and warmest of holiday greetings to you, Bill Phillips, and the entire professional staff at Leeds Ltd. in London.

Sincerely yours,

Leeds Music Corporation
 Leeds

STANDARD DIVISION
 1650 Broadway, Chgo. 5-4912

CHICAGO OFFICE
 51 W. Randolph, Anderson 3622

HOLLYWOOD OFFICE
 1937 North Vine, Hilch, 1614

ASCAP Thumbs Use Of Symbol For Pitch to Tyros

Hollywood, Dec. 17. John G. Payne, general manager of society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, has notified all members, publishers and writers alike, that hereafter they may not use the ASCAP logo in any manner which would tend to solicit or in any manner refer to the solicitation of funds from amateur songwriters for help in securing a contract with the Society through publicizing such practice. Payne threatened any anyone found trading on membership will take a rap from ASCAP's Complaint Committee.

ASCAP has been deluged of late with queries from amateurs who have been bilked, according to Payne, and many of the simon-pure complain they paid ASCAP members to help them point up, exploit or get published songs, but that once coin was tendered nothing happened. For years the Society has frowned on such deals, but this is first time ASCAPers have had to utter a presented with such force and emphasis.

BIRNIE COHEN PLANS D'TOWN L.A. TERPALACE

Los Angeles, Dec. 16. Birnie Cohen has formulated plans to acquire a vacant downtown site on which to erect a ballroom as "soon as the government permits me and prices on materials lessen." Cohen operated Casino Gardens, Ocean Park here for 16 years before selling the ballroom several seasons back to Wayne Dallard, who in turn peddled place to present owner, Tommy Dorsey.

Only L.A. downtown terpalace of size is the Avodon, which opened last stay and has had tedious trading since. Cohen says his projected spot will use name band policy. As to recent rumors that he plans to bid in for buy back Casino Gardens, Cohen says he has made Dorsey no offer. But Dorsey is said to be open to such.

George Riddle, formerly service manager of Capitol Records, has joined Biletone Records as assistant to prexy Arthur L. Becker. He'll assist in general supervision and will also be in charge of talent.

10 Best Sheet Sellers

(Week ending Dec. 14)
Old Lamlighter.....Shapiro-B
Ole Buttermilk Sky.....Burke-VH
World Singing Song.....Duchess
Sentimental Reasons.....Duchess
White Xmas.....Berlin
Humors Are Flying.....Oxford
Gail In Calico.....Remick
Winter Wonderland.....BVC
Zip-a-Dee-Do-Do-Dah.....Santley-Joy
September Song.....Crawford

Second 10

Sooner or Later.....Santley-Joy
Five Minutes More.....Morris
Things We Did Summer.....Morris
You Keep Coming Back Like a Song.....Burke-VH
For You, For Me.....Chappell
If You Were Only Girl.....Mutual
Girl That I Made.....Berlin
This Is Always.....BVC
Guess I'll Get Papers.....C-P
Come Fly With Me.....Valiant

U. of No. Carolina Suit Vs. T.D. Filed; Ask 11G Damages Over 1-Niter

Raleigh, Dec. 17. Formal order was filed Saturday (14) against Tommy Dorsey by the U. of North Carolina Order of the Graft. Asking \$1,000 damages for breach of contract. Graft, a student dance society, wants \$5,000 from T.D. for breach of contract. Alleging that Dorsey underwrote 19 musicians for a dance at Chapel Hill when his contract called for 36 players, another \$5,000 was sought for loss of profits due to breach of contract, and \$1,000 damages was asked for Dorsey's failure to give a full two hour concert.

Originally, papers in the suit, when filed on Dorsey, asked damages of \$20,000. No explanation was made for the reduction to \$11,000. Dorsey claimed his contract called for only 16 men plus himself and this probably will be his defense.

Paul Whiteman Jr. To Debut Own Band in N.Y.

Young Paul Whiteman, Jr., will make his debut as a maestro next Sunday (22) when he moves his five-piece combo into the Iceland Restaurant, New York. The 22-year-old only out of "Pops" Whiteman has been drumming with the Paul Ash band at the Roxy theatre, N. Y. before that, he worked the Capitol theatre with his dad's band.

Group will have Whiteman on drums, plus an electric organ, two trumpets and a trombone.

RCA Higher-Ups Back Aides in Row With WB on Song Assignments

Canton's \$15-Year Diskbox License Fee in Jeopardy

But forgotten since its passage by City Council in June, 1945, an ordinance imposing a \$15 yearly license on disk boxes in Canton finally had its day in court recently. Owners of some 400 machines in the city had obtained a temporary restraining order 17 months ago which prevented city officials from enforcing the law. Common Pleas Judge George N. Graham will now decide whether the temporary order should be made permanent.

Police Chief Elmer E. Clark said he had received only occasional complaints. Captain William D. Harrison, head of the Child Welfare Bureau, testified on cross-examination that the photographs in themselves could not be classified as contributing to juvenile delinquency.

BIG NUT CUES MOSS BOW TO TEX BENEKE

Run of the Tex Beneke-Glenn Miller orchestra at the 400 Club, New York, has been cut from six weeks to four. This move was agreed to late last week following Beneke's "over the top" contract to the previous refusal by Nat Moss, 400 operator, to let Beneke out of the final two weeks of his run.

Apparently the convincer set in following Beneke's opening Thursday (12) night. While his business has been good, an improvement over previous figures with other bands, the size of Beneke's band (31 musicians, five vocalists) drew a back-breaking \$4,750 guarantee, plus the first \$1,200 in covers and 50% of all covers thereafter. This obligation finally induced Moss to let the band out of the final two weeks of the date. It will close Jan. 8.

Meanwhile, Moss has been asserting that he had talked to Tommy Dorsey and that the latter was amenable to opening at the spot immediately after his Capitol theatre, N. Y. date, starting Dec. 26. This move by T. D. would have been an about-face since Dorsey had been most definite about laying off for a couple of months at least following the Capitol. Dorsey finally denies, however, that he has any plans concerning playing the 400.

Dispute between Herman Starr, head of the Warner Bros. music publishing group, and officials of RCA's Recording Division came to a head last week when Starr went to higher RCA execs with a complaint and assertedly was told that decisions of Jim Murray, general manager of the recording division, and his assistants were final. Starr was also told, it's claimed, that RCA was completely satisfied with the operation of the department, despite his allegations.

Murray and Eli Oberstein, head of RCA's artists and repertoire, have for some time been at loggerheads with Starr over the assignment of WB songs to artists. Starr has felt that the handling of his tunes has not been to the best interests of such major catalogs as his Harms, Inc., Remick, and Witmark, among the highest-rated firms in the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Recently, Starr and RCA temporarily buried the hatchet when the publisher agreed to be the first to accept a 15% royalty on the company's new 60¢ disk price. His bow to the reduction from an automatic 20% royalty, due to the retail price increase from 50¢, was the result of an agreement that his tunes would be assigned to artists more to his liking. The accord resulted in RCA's whipping of all other puts into the 15¢ line.

However, the artists Starr drew for his songs under the deal apparently were not acceptable to him, and the dispute broke out anew, culminating in his presenting his case to higher RCA authorities.

Morris Sets Up Music Firm for Republic Pix

Designed to handle clearance of background music for Republic pictures, new firm known as Motion Picture Music Corp. has been set up by the Edwin H. Morris combine. Organized chiefly for technical purposes, M.P. Music will have no exploitation staff.

Republic will have a participating interest in the Morris subunit according to Henry Spitzer, general manager for Morris. He also stated the new company would publish very few songs.

Annette Warren, former warbler and "Ber, inked by Black & White records.

Songs With Largest Radio Audiences

The top 32 songs of the week, based on the copyrighted Audience Coverage Index Survey of Popular Music Broadcast on Radio Networks. Copyrighted by Office of Research, Inc.

Start Date of December 6-12, 1946	Remick
A Gail In Calico—"Time, Place, Girl"	Famous
And So To Bed	Valiant
Ben, The	H. Warren
Coffee Song—"Capehanna Revue"	Melrose
Connecticut	Duchess
Everybody Loves My Little Lady	Berlin
Five Minutes More	Peer
For Sentimental Reasons	Leeds
For You, For Me	Miller
For You, For Me—"Shining Miss Pilgrim"	Mills
I Got the Sun in the Morning—"Annie Get Your Gun"	Witmark
I'll Never Love Again	Burke-VH
It's a Pity to Say Goodnight	Shapiro-B
It's All Over Now	BVC
Margie—"Margie"	Crierion
Oh, But I Do—"Time, Place, Girl"	Southern
Ole Buttermilk Sky—"Canyon Passage"	Oxford
Old Lamlighter	Morris
On the Boardwalk—"Three Little Girls in Blue"	Berlin
Pretending	Dorsey Bros.
Rickety Rickety Man	Robbins
Rumors Are Flying	BVC
Things We Did Last Summer	Berlin
This Is Always—"Three Little Girls in Blue"	Singula Songs
This Time	Dorsey Bros.
Whole World Is Singing	Berlin
Winter Wonderland	BVC
You Keep Coming Back Like a Song—"Blue Skies"	Berlin
You'll Always Be the One I Love	Singula Songs
Zip-a-De-Do-Dah—"Song of South"	Santley-Joy

Following songs are those that did not have enough performance credits on the week to be included in the top group. They mostly are tunes rising in popularity.

A Rainy Night in Rio—"Time, Place, Girl"	Witmark
Among My Souvenirs	T. B. Harms
Anybody's Love Song	Miller
Blue Skies—"Blue Skies"	Berlin
Either It's Love Or It Isn't—"Dead Reckoning"	Mood
I'll Close My Eyes	Maurice
Let It Snow	Morris
Linger In My Arms a Little Longer Baby	Bourne
My Heart Goes Crazy—"My Heart Goes Crazy"	Burke-VH
Put It Back Back Where You Found It	Robbins
September Song	Crawford
Somewhere In the Night—"Three Little Girls in Blue"	Triangle
Sooner or Later—"Song of South"	Berlin
South America Take It Away—"Call Me Mister"	Witmark
That's the Beginning of the End	ABC
They Say It's Wonderful—"Annie Get Your Gun"	Berlin
To Each His Own—"To Each His Own"	Paramount
Uncle Remus Said—"Song of the South"	Santley-Joy
Years and Years Ago	Bourne

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ASSOCIATED BOOKING CORP. JOE GLASER, Pres.

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and time to get your COLUMBIA releases of AUD LANG SYNE HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOVE YOU (theme) THE MAN THAT COMES AROUND Personal Mgr.: JOE GALKIN, Music Corporation of America

Frank Dailey, After Western Survey, Feels Cheaper Bands Won't Solve Lag

Frank Dailey, who had decided to forgo expensive name bands for his Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J., until current lagging conditions had changed, has made a survey of the midwest and, after listening to some dozen bands there, he's done a switch. Some of the bands to which he's listened are completely unknown outside their own territory, and glomming business done by them and other better known ensembles in Chicago and St. Louis, Dailey has decided that the answer to the current b.o. slump does not lie in buying cheaper, lesser known bands.

Dailey feels that the only thing to be done under the circumstances is to string along with established names, if those combos can cut operating costs sufficiently to put their prices more in line with the business that they have been drawing. His conclusions are that once this is accomplished their customers of his ilk will be able to lower food and drink prices, which have lately been set so high as to contribute heavily to the current lagging b.o. He feels now that this is the primary reason for the public's disinterest in the top bands, and the fact that some of them have been around so long having nothing at all to do with the public's lack of interest.

To substantiate his point that the current condition is mostly an economic one, Dailey recites some of the experiences of waiters and others met on his western day. They find patrons going so far as to request that they be advised when their checks reach a certain total, indicating that a certain figure had been marked as the limit of their spending for that evening. That's only one of many angles waiters now run into.

Top Tunes for Your Books

An All-Time Favorite

EXACTLY
LIKE
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MUSIC BY . . .
JIMMY McHUGH
Shapiro-Bernstein

Paper Tape New Gimmick In Recorded Field

Chicago, Dec. 17. Latest entry in the battle between tape cassettes and wire tape is a paper tape developed by the Indiana Steel Products Co., which is expected to have greater fidelity than any other recorder on the market.

The tape, which is made out of rag paper, is pointed with a magnetic aloy which can be demagnetized in a re-reeling process and ready for immediate reuse. Compared to wire tape, cost of recording a half-hour session is about one-third cheaper. Spools are expected to retail about \$1.50 as against \$5 a spool for metal recording.

Special recording machines were developed to handle the tape with the cooperation of the Midwest Research Institute of Kansas City, Mo. Models are similar to magazines on film camera projectors.

Inventor Hugh Howell expects the tape in the near future to replace the present shellac method of disk recording and also to make inroads on Hollywood recording due to the ease of editing and patching that can be done with paper product.

Product in demonstration in Chicago very good in reproducing middle and lower voice and musical register, but control was weak on the high notes.

Govt. Lifts Curb On Paper Dole

All danger of Government restriction on the use of paper by music publishers was lifted last week with the receipt of a directive by the Music Publishers Protective Ass'n. Walter Douglas, that applications to the Government for "inventory grants" were no longer necessary. Previously, such grants costed stock and applied accordingly.

Order originally had been received late in November, but exclusion of various other forms of music publication forced withholding of the dope until a subsequent letter clarified the first and removed all forms of music publication from restrictions.

Ben Sabia, formerly with Mutual and Robbins, now operating his own firm, Greenwich Music Corp.

Familiar Face

Chicago, Dec. 17. Lew Diamond, bandleader, who has town sewed up with his juju juju, pinch hitting at top of regular band, last night off was introduced to Cincinnati visitor at Blackhawk restaurant by owner Don Rios. "Do I know him," asked the visitor, "I saw him at the Chez Paree Wednesday night, Saturday night, College Inn Saturday afternoon, Palmer's Saturday night, and he's still working here tonight. Doesn't Chicago have any other night clubs?"

Hucksters Label On Participating Workman Basis

Hollywood, Dec. 17. New odd label, Huckster Records, has as many people holding a piece of it as the name suggests. It is in some band leader. In this case, however, ownership is really a working agreement where the contributors labor for talent.

It all started with a master disk of "Sleepy Baby" and "I Remember," which partner Dick Gold received from the defunct Be-Tone Records. Gold, of months ago, died. Arty Wayne, former vocalist with Freddy Martin, supplied the idea of forming a new label. "I Remember," which partner Dick Gold received from the defunct Be-Tone Records. Gold, of months ago, died. Arty Wayne, former vocalist with Freddy Martin, supplied the idea of forming a new label. "I Remember," which partner Dick Gold received from the defunct Be-Tone Records. Gold, of months ago, died. Arty Wayne, former vocalist with Freddy Martin, supplied the idea of forming a new label.

On delivery of the first of 1,000 plates, all hands pitched in to peddle the new label. It sold out completely within a couple of days. In the two weeks of its existence, the label has now sold 20,000 and more orders continue to pile in. Though still pushing only the one label, expansion is planned. Arty and Phillips band and the Velvetones are on the initialer, however with establishment clinched the plan now is to spot showcase Wayne on the disks and use Hucksters as the step-off for the singer when the agency had been unable to spot favorably until the birth of the firm that cost \$180 in cash.

Bill Karzas Adds 3 Midwest Ballrooms To Chi's Aragon, Trianon

Chicago, Dec. 17. Three of the largest ballrooms in the middle west were sold this week to William Karzas, owner of the Aragon and Trianon dance spots here. Karzas added the Surf, Clear Lake, Iowa, Terp, Austin, Miami and others. From Ballroom, Minneapolis. All were owned previously by Carl Fox, who will be retained in an advisory capacity.

Buyout will not affect personnel. Karzas will institute a name band policy, which will have a large influence on band booking with his being able to offer large blocks of time to bands that will play his circuit.

Kenneth Moore, now associated with Karzas, will be active in the new chain.

COAST SHEET SALES IN SEASONAL CLIMB

Hollywood, Dec. 17. Sheet music sales have spurred mightily in this area since first of month and as a result has become normal for season, according to western dealers and jobbers. Picture funds are brightened by fact December is best month of year. Consequently, bulk hereabouts are taking new lease on life after the lulling five-month slump which skidded sales down 35% generally.

Currently top-selling sheets on Coast is "White Christmas," which climbed spot flat ten days ago and probably will perch there until Santa's camp. Since the ditty was published in 1944, it has been given annual revival by Irving Berlin and each year notes to top rung during the weeks preceding the holidays.

Music Notes

Johnny Green and Leo Robin squiggle to compose six ditties for Deanna Durbin's forthcoming "For the Love of Mary" . . . Dennis Day prepping six-shaft album of Harry Lauder's songs, RCA Victor . . . Mervyn LeRoy held eight sessions at Copacabana, N. Y., opening May 5 . . . Lee Savin, Miscalat Records' sales manager, on Coast this week checking western distribution.

"You Won't Forget Me" new tune by Fred Spielman and Kermit Goell, bought by Metro for "Daddy Is a Wolf" production . . . Bill Darnell, vice chairman of Harry Lauder's songs, signed by RCA Victor . . . Mervyn LeRoy held eight sessions at Copacabana, N. Y., opening May 5 . . . Lee Savin, Miscalat Records' sales manager, on Coast this week checking western distribution. "You Won't Forget Me" new tune by Fred Spielman and Kermit Goell, bought by Metro for "Daddy Is a Wolf" production . . . Bill Darnell, vice chairman of Harry Lauder's songs, signed by RCA Victor . . . Mervyn LeRoy held eight sessions at Copacabana, N. Y., opening May 5 . . . Lee Savin, Miscalat Records' sales manager, on Coast this week checking western distribution.

Von Tilzer Wins Appeal Vs. Vogel

The opinion of Judge William Bondy in N. Y. federal court in favor of Harry Von Tilzer against Jerry Vogel's Music Co. involved seven songs composed by Von Tilzer, was unanimously upheld by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, in N. Y., last Thursday (12). The issues involved was copyright infringement, and it is considered important in establishing law in the field of copyright. Case has been in litigation for several years.

The decision holds that Vogel Music, defendant, infringed on copyrights of such old songs as "A Girl Just Like the Girl Who Married Dear Old Dad," "Down on the Farm," "All Alone," "When Harvest Days are Over" and several other old-time hits. The music company had published these songs after the original copyright had expired, claiming to have rights from the heirs of the lyric writers who had collaborated with Von Tilzer. The question involved on the appeal was whether the estates of these lyric writers could assign the renewal of copyrights to Vogel Music.

Louis Nizer, counsel for Harry Von Tilzer, contended that these lyrics remained vested in the lyric writers company. During the litigation it was claimed that Vogel's business was a re-publication business and that the manner in which he claimed to have obtained assignments from estates did not satisfy the rights he claimed. Additionally, it was held in the case that where folios are printed, comprising a collection of songs, such folios do not constitute printed copies like sheet music or sheet music books. Von Tilzer did not owe royalties on such folios.

Because of the complexity of the issues, the District Court had granted \$10,000 counsel fees to Von Tilzer's counsel, Circuit Court of Appeals held that there was no abuse of discretion in the amount of attorneys' fees awarded. Accounting for profits and damages was the next step in the proceedings.

TWO OUTSTANDING HOLIDAY SONGS! CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR

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Professional Copies Sent Air Mail on Request

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TOP HITS OF YESTERDAY

GREAT POPULAR STANDARDS TODAY

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SUNDOWN

Words and music by
Walter Donaldson

From the Charles E. Rogers Production
"THE FABULOUS DORSEYS"

AT
SUNDOWN

Words and music by
Walter Donaldson

The Newest, Fastest Growing
Revival Hit

SUGAR

Words by Sidney Mitchell and
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For new lyrics, chords and
arrangements, write or phone
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Newest

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with

JO STAFFORD

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NBC THURSDAY

DEC. 19th

Latest and Newest
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"That's My Desire"

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Tops in RADIO

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Tops in RECORD SALES

"The readers of Band Leader Mag. and Record Review voted Ray Bloch's Humoresque as the fourth ranking record in the Dec. plotter revue."

Billboard: "Velvety violins of Ray Bloch's orchestra . . . choir and voicings add vocal color to any record."

The Record of the Month Club for Dec. selected Ray Bloch's recording of Begin the Beguine.

RAY BLOCH Records Exclusively For

Signature Records

- 15005 LIMESHOUSE BLUES
- MEADOWLAND
- 15008 THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S
- SPELLBOUND
- 15011 FULL MOON AND EMPTY ARMS
- POLLY WOOLLY DOODLE
- 15015 ESPANHALEM
- JEALOUSY
- 15054 BEGIN THE BEGUINE
- HUMORESQUE

In Signature Album S-2

- 15050 THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT
- SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES
- 15052 ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE
- PEOPLE WILL SAY WE'RE IN LOVE
- 15051 THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU
- A PRETTY GIRL IS LIKE A MELODY

Featuring Monica Lewis

- 15013 THE WHIFFENPOOF SONG
- THE HOUSE I LIVE IN
- 15029 SHOULD I TELL YOU I LOVE YOU
- PUT THE BLAME ON MAME
- 15042 THE CAT AND THE CANARY
- WALKIN' WITH MY SHADOW
- 15046 FOR YOU, FOR ME FOREVER MORE
- AD REVOIR
- 15047 CRADLE SONG
- SWEET AND LOW
- 15055 WITHOUT YOU
- SOUTH AMERICA, TAKE IT AWAY
- 15040 UNCLE REMUS SAID
- A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO

Featuring Bobby Doyle

- 15035 TWILIGHT SONG
- ADVENTURE
- 15039 AND THEN IT'S HEAVEN
- YOU KEEP COMING BACK LIKE A SONG
- 15057 A SERENADE TO AN OLD FASHIONED GIRL
- I WONDER WHO'S MISSING HER NOW
- 15058 WHITE CHRISTMAS
- SILENT NIGHT

Featuring Bobby Doyle and Monica Lewis

- 15057 WHY DOES IT GET SO LATE SO EARLY
- TWO SLEEPY PEOPLE



ALBUM S-3



ALBUM C-1

ALBUM S-2

EXCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT

MUSIC CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Chi Bistros Set New Year's Eve Tariffs Way Above Last Year's Bite

Chicago, Dec. 17. Night club New Year's Eve tariffs are hiked plenty over last year's prices and several clubs for the first time since the beginning of the war are encouraging formal dress.

Top spot is the Cameo Club with \$100 cover, which includes supper and all the champagne you can drink. Mayfair Room of the Blackstone Hotel raised the bite from \$25.00 per couple of last year to \$35.00. Empire Room of the Palmer House is up from 1945 to \$30 per couple. Boulevard of the Stevens Hotel stays the same as before with a \$30.50 charge.

Chez Paree and Rio Cabana have set a cover charge of \$30 and \$30.50 respectively for their New Year's Eve parties, while the Walnut Room of the Bismarck is charging \$10. The Blackhawk is \$8.15.

Several other spots as yet have not announced their scales but are taking reservations. Latter are heavy with several class spots already sold out. Bookers also report heavy demand from neighborhood spots for talent which indicates strong biz for outlying districts.

Eleanor Powell's Cafe Date
Eleanor Powell signed last week for a date at the Chez Paree, Chicago, starting in March.

Film dancer is doing personal appearance for the first time in many years and may later go into a Broadway musical.

"My Favorite Story"

Variety's annual symposium of the year's best laughs as recounted by
Eddie Davis
Tom Howard
Joe E. Lewis
J. C. Nugent
Dr. Walter B. Pitkin

VARIETY'S
41st Anniversary Number

Wakely Teams With Austin For Vauders, Rodeo Date

Jimmy Wakely, Monogram cowboy player, and Gene Austin start a series of theatre dates at the St. Charles theatre, New Orleans, today (Wed.). Duo will carry five additional performers and are slated for a series of dates on the Interstate time in Texas, and will do a rodeo appearance at Lakeville, Fla.

Dates are on a percentage basis.

Carnival, N.Y., Sprucing For New O&J Show

Nicky Blain's Carnival, N. Y., will shutter from New Year's day to Jan. 9, date of the Olsen and Johnson preem. Spot will get a decoration job and stage will be enlarged for the O&J engagement. Club closes immediately after Milton Berle completes his record-breaking 44-week date on the holiday eve.

Olsen & Johnson will go in with a show which includes Beatrice Kay, a multitude of stogees. Three Pitkinmen were previously slated to go into that show, but apparently fell through.



HELENE AND HOWARD
"Comedy Dance Artist"
Wish Everyone
A Merry Xmas
Dir: MATTY ROSEN

Fields Shifting to FB

Freddie Fields, currently with Abner J. Greshler agency, is set to join Frederick Bros. around Jan. 1. Fields will be in charge of Latin band bookings at the Fredericks office.

He's a brother of Shep Fields, the bandleader, who's also going into the agency business.

Comics Overlap Each Other

At Friars' Salute to Lewis; Frolic Grosses \$20,000

The scarcity of comedy material is most evident at a benefit when a flock of comics show up and do their act not knowing or what they preceded them. The audience finds the same material showing up frequently. That was the situation at the Friars Frolic at the Imperial theatre, N. Y., Sunday (15) when virtually every comic in town came to honor the Lewis to whom the shindig was dedicated.

The audience was slightly amused by the repetition of funny material—but whether it's the comic's fault or that of writers who sell their own material is another question, is something for performers to figure out. At any rate the audience didn't know how to what they preceded them.

In the old days, the talent made a gentlemen's agreement among themselves not to repeat.

Curiously enough the freshest material came from Milton Berle of whom the legend says, attends every comic opening with pencil and paper. Bud Sweeney and Jess Beak similarly showed new stuff.

Admittedly, from repetition, comic suffered from lack of diversity. A comic followed a singer and vice versa. Only other type performers were the opening dance act of Pritchard and Lord, Jim Wong troupe and the Hawaiian sequence from the Latin Quarter show. Lew Parker did nicely as encee during the first half, but Berle taking over for a portion. Ted Lewis wound up enceeding the LQ sequence.

The three acts for the occasion came off fairly well. One on the life of Ted Lewis with Milton Berle as the central character, other a boulevarder with Smith and Dale and the Friar membership did a burlesque of ensembles. Although writers weren't the raciest, crowd seemed to enjoy these most.

Majority of the cluacuts were sold to showbusiness figures, most of whom didn't go to see a vaude show. Consequently more skits and blackouts showing genuine effort from the membership would have been more to the crowd's liking.

The affair grossed around \$20,000 with an SRD crowd present at a \$25 top. Proceeds include take from the souvenir program.

Others who appeared included Thomas Carpenter, Dorothy Sayers, Bill McGraw, Archie Robbins, Lillian Roth, Anne Thomas, Marion Colby, Mack Triplett, Bert Frohman, and Lenny Kent.

Culture of the acts was generally solid and all performers got healthy mits.

Joe.

Walker Named Chairman Of Newly Formed SMWG

Allen Walker has been named temporary chairman of the newly formed Special Material Writers Guild. Group has completed a working arrangement with the American Guild of Variety Artists and plans to ultimately ally itself with the Authors League of America.

Executive committee of the SMWG consists of Hughie Prince, Allen Sproul, Leo Fuld and Marty Roth.

Attorney Louis Mandel Exits Danny Kaye Setup

After 7½ years association, Sylvia Fine (Mrs. Danny Kaye) is taking over the active business management of her comedian-husband's affairs, which means attorney Louis Mandel has exited the combine. When Kaye first started in show business, his "cabinet" comprised the barrister; Miss Fine, who writes most of his special material, her collaborator Max Liebman, and publicist Eddie Dukoff.

Frank L. Weil will now handle the legalities and the William Morris agency, under Mrs. Kaye's direction, will operate and execute the business details.

Atlantic City Hotels, Bistros Prep For Largest Holiday Crowds Since Pre-War

Atlantic City, Dec. 17.

For the first time in six years it will be a normal Christmas here with much of the oldtime Yuletide gaiety recaptured as resort amusement places and hotels put out their very best for the holiday visitors.

Night clubs are featuring the "no cover, no minimum" line in their advertising, with a few exceptions, and hope for good civilian crowds these holidays to replace the uniformed lads of yesterday.

Hotels again reflect the pre-war spirit with gala decorations, special dinners, choral music, and Santa Claus featured in all the leading boardwalk and avenue hostilities.

Both Boardwalk and Atlantic avenue are ablaze with Christmas lighting, erected while the soft cold strike was on in the hope the miners would be called back before the holidays. The strings of red and green lights stretch for six miles along these two lanes. They are complemented on the walk by the hotel Yule illumination and by the Christmas trees which have been erected in front of the big hostilities.

While the Christmas holiday is expected for the most part to be a quiet one, amusement and hotel people are preparing for a sellout crowd to welcome in the New Year. Hotels and night clubs are already reserving reservations.

Josephine Baker, pre-war colored Paris revue star, will marry Jo Bouillon, band leader, beginning of January.

Former Latin Faves Now Doing OK on Home Ground

Latin performers who spent the war years in America are gradually finding their way back to Spain.

Among those now in that country are Pilar Lopez, sister of the late Argentina, who is heading a troupe at the Theatre Calderon. Appearing with her are Jose Greco and Manola Vargas, all flamenco dancers, who at various times worked with the late dancer.

Thomas Rios, husband of Miss Lopez, who while in this country worked several Latin bistros, is appearing at the Casablanca club, Barcelona.

CAPPELLA AND PATRICIA

are dancing away with the show at Bill Miller's Embassy Club . . . presenting highly individual routines in every tempo—they even have a "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU" number that for sheer jauntiness is unsurpassed . . . always appearing as a vision of mobile beauty.

VIRGINIA FORBES,
New York Sun.
Held Over 7th Week
EMBASSY CLUB, N. Y.
Thanks to BILL MILLER and BILL PICKS

ESTELLE CAROL

Acrobatic Dance Star
LEON AND EDDIE'S, New York
"Estelle Carol, petite brunette hooper, opened with an interesting exotic dance and showed lot of high kicks, splits and butterflys. Finished to a nice hand."

—The Billboard.

HOTEL NICOLLET, Minneapolis
"Estelle Carol, a winsome, fit-some lass who offers the rare combination of captivating beauty, sharp and fabulous feats of the Acrobatic Art."

—Minn. Tribune.

Season's Greetings to My Host of Friends

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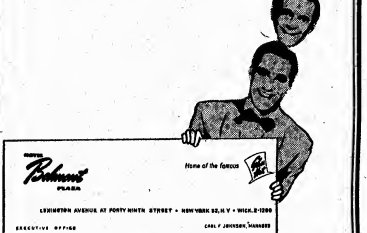
SEASON'S GREETINGS

RECENTLY OF THE ARMY
BOB FREED

And Completed a Milestone Engagement in the Blue Room, Shorcham Hotel Washington, D. C.

Direction: Bert Joran, 1650 Broadway

THANKS
CARL F. JOHNSON, Mgr.
Belmont Plaza, New York



Belmont Plaza
LOCATION: AVENUE AT FORTY-NINTH STREET • NEW YORK 24, N.Y. • WALK-TO-TOO
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
December 12th, 1946
CARL F. JOHNSON, Manager

The Radio Aces
Send Belmont Plaza
New York, New York

Dear Radio Aces:

Since your engagement that started two weeks ago at the Glen Bell, we have been all around with an enthusiasm in your excellent performance and popularity. Your style in presenting songs in a manner that has a tremendous impact in the world of entertainment and your initiation of your various numbers are absolutely clever.

The comment that we have received from friends at the Glen Bell proves that your act is the most popular one that has performed in this famous room in many months.

You have captured the hearts of the Glen Bell patrons by presenting the ultimate in American lyrics. You are today regarded as an American sensation in the selection of your songs and in your native country has laughed with you in your various songs and read programs and the patrons of the Glen Bell were privileged to enjoy your fine performance.

Wishing you continued success, we are

Sincerely yours,
THE BELMONT PLAZA
Carl F. Johnson
CARL F. JOHNSON, MGR.

RADIO ACES

Management:
MCA ARTISTS, LTD.

Miami Copa Still Angling Berle

William Morris agency is working on the possibility that Milton Berle may keep his Christmas, Miami Beach date in January, despite the fact that he's slated for an airshow. Since Berle's Philip Morris radio show just set to preem in February, Morris office figures he may be able to play two or three weeks at the Florida hotel prior to his radio work. Berle's contract with the Copa gives him the right to cancel out should a radio show come along. He's set for the cove on a contract calling for a \$12,500 guarantee plus \$10,000 weekly, but because he isn't losing too much if he takes a cut of \$10,500 or more. Comedian also feels a network airing will him more prestige than the nitery date.

Mahoney, Geraghty Split
Brisbane, Dec. 14
Breakup between Will Mahoney and Bob Geraghty, with the U. S. comic switching to join with Harry Wren, local vaude operator, is leading up to a couple of court cases.

A TIP FOR CHRISTMAS LISTEN KIDDIES

Once upon a time there was a little actor —
and he bought a seat on the New York Stock Exchange —
and he became a broker —
but he kept on acting, too, because he loved it.
At all the other little actors and actresses fancied that he had the magic key to wealth, and if he would only give them a tip, they would all become rich.
He knew that his beloved show folk lost their hard-earned money too regularly and so, in answer to their entreaties, he gave them the magic formula.
It was a motto to be used in ALL financial matters. He had it printed in Variety, a little yellow book his playmates he knew loved to read. It said —
"WHEN EVERYONE IS TRYING TO SELL THAT'S THE TIME TO BUY.
WHEN EVERYONE IS TRYING TO BUY THAT'S THE TIME TO SELL."
And he signed his name —

Georgie Price

For Authentic Rumba Bands
EDWARD GREEN AGENCY, inc.
139 E. 57th St., N. Y. C. PL. 9-7470

Acorn Convicted as Slayer Of Pugilist in Mont' Row

Montreal, Dec. 17.
Comedian William "BILLY" Acorn, whose engagement at the Samovar was cut short last Sept. 20 by the death of his companion, Lester Velez, a U. S. boxer, was found guilty of manslaughter Friday (13) by Judge of the Court of King's Bench. Trial was one of the shortest on record here, lasting only three days. He will be sentenced on Friday (20).
Acorn started under oath that the argument between Velez, who was in training, had been unable to go out and drink with Acorn after the comic's last show.
Acorn also revealed that at the time he was playing at the Samovar he invited Velez to come up here and have a drink. He said Velez was drinking too much in New York and he didn't want him to become a boxer.

Shaker's Mishap Causes Revision of 'Ice Capades'

Montreal, Dec. 17.
Ice Capades, playing the Coliseum here last week, ran into some tough luck when star Bobby Specht was injured in a fall from the stage while warming up before the show opened Saturday night (17). Specht was taken to the hospital and was ordered to quit show and return to his home.

Saranac Lake

Saranac Lake, N. Y., Dec. 17.
First Christmas card of the season all-mailed in from Benito Colonna, the El Chico bonanza from Greenwich Village, packed a wallop of good cheer.
Walter Hoban into general hospital for the "R.I.B." operation, took the cut like a veteran and is recuperating O.K.
David (IATSE) Vandermast checked into Rogers for observation.
Jerry LaRose applied for all meals, mix and milk exercise.
George Poe and William Laile out of the general hospital after throat operation.
John McCarthy, union exec, planned in from Big Town to ogle and snuggle by one of the IATSE boys who are benched here. Many members of the medical staff were also remembered.
Dorothy Nolan, who left here some time ago for the Coast, is now doing the rest routine in Tucson, Arizona.
Down town visiting passed on to Sam Schulman, Sig. Mealy, White Matthews and Forrest "Slim" Glenn. Benway urged for supper.
Arnold Coleman and Joseph Lowrey penciled in on the good health side of the ledger and upon for one meal a day.
James "RKO" McCarthy, who was recently appointed downtown shopper, is a member of this colony for three years, and befriended many of the needy.
Mrs. John Binkley in from Lancaster, Pa., to bedside her hubby, who is perling up nicely.
Rami-Sami and Jerry Lukins, of the New York Conjurors Club, in to ogle and bedside Karl Kessler.
(Write to those who are ill).

Curra Rumba Band Set For La Martinique, N.Y.

La Martinique, N. Y., will attempt to get a healthy slice of the rumba addict business with inclusion of a 13-piece Latin band starting Dec. 28. Martinique Curra orch has been set for an indefinite stay by Dario and Jimmy Vernon, La Martinique ops.
Rumba bands have proven business-getters at the Embassy and La Conga, N. Y., and La Martinique will try to get some of this trade.

Mildred Bailey Claims Illness Caused Anking Out on Nitery Date

Mildred Bailey, songstress, has interposed a defense to allegation that she walked out of nitery contract with Stork Club, Council Bluffs, Ia. last month as alleged by Cy Silvers, operator of spot, who filed complaint of contract breach with American Guild of Variety Artists.
Miss Bailey appeared at AGVA last week to deny such was the case. She stated that she had been booked into the nitery on a two-weeks pact and had opened there Nov. 4. The following day she became ill, called in a physician, who ordered her hospitalized for a week. She says she notified the club both of her illness and whereabouts but Silvers didn't seem concerned enough to check but merely took his beat to AGVA.

If facts are as represented, union stated Silvers would have no case against the songstress.

Pitt Nitery Releases Key for Vaude Date

Pittsburgh, Dec. 17.
Vogue Terrace, big theatre-restaurant on the outskirts, permitted Alvino Rey to cut his two-week contract in half so he could accept a stage offer in Detroit. He was to have remained at the Vogue through this Thursday (19) but closed instead week earlier.
As a result, spot hastily brought in Freddy Shaffer and his Victory Sweethearts, an all-girl band, for their third engagement at Vogue Terrace in little more than a year.

Diana Lynn, Weil Twins Setting Vaude Tours

Film names are continuing to hit the personal appearance field with addition of Diana Lynn and the Weil Twins. Miss Lynn is being submitted at \$3,500.
Weil Twins have already been set for the Copacabana, Chicago, starting Jan. 21.
Both acts are being submitted by Matty Rosen who recently consorted with the A.S. Lyons agency.
Rosen has also set Wilbur Evans for the State theatre, N. Y., starting Feb. 6.

Shelvey Sends Irving to West Coast On Extensive Survey for Talent Union

Union Cites Conn. Nitery Unfair for Bum Check Pay

The Lodge, Bridgeport, Conn., was declared unfair by American Guild of Variety Artists last week for having paid off in bouncing check to Francis Renault, femme impersonator, who had played the spot two weeks ago.
Renault complained to the union, which reimbursed him for amount due from security the spot had up with AGVA. Spot subsequently went good to the union on the bouncer.

NITERY COMIC HELD ON BURGLARY RAP IN PIT

Pittsburgh, Dec. 17.
Short career in crime came to a quick end last week for Edwin Hootnagle, local radio and nitery comic, and a companion; Louis Carmona, when police caught them on the roof of the downtown Elks Club after they had held up manager John Newhauser and robbed him of \$283 in cash. Only a few hours before, Hootnagle had done a guest show on KQV's "Open House" program.
Hootnagle h' been an entertainer at the Elks several times and knew the layout, even to having a duplicate key to the building. He told police he was "financially embarrassed and hoped to have a nice Christmas with the money."

Armond Palmerino, a brother-in-law of Carmona, was charged with being an accessory to the crime when he admitted borrowing the revolver which officers found in the possession of Hootnagle.

Stacy Upped by MCA

Eldred Stacy succeeds the late Hogan Hancock, who was in charge of the act and band department in the Dallas branch of Music Corp. of America. Stacy worked with Hancock for several years.
Norman McPhee continues to head that office.

Jack Irving, head of Chicago branch of American Guild of Variety Artists, has been dispatched to the west coast where he will make a survey of that and northwest area in interests of the talent union.

According to Matti Shelvey, national head of AGVA, there are several territories in that area that have not been organized to his satisfaction. Irving will do the spade work in bringing in a number of niteries and some theatres in these territories under AGVA pacts, calling for closed shop agreements with union and posting of cash security covering talent budgets.

Union head explains that most of the established spots there have passed up union, but the newer niteries, while paying AGVA-scale for talent, do not have minimum basic contracts with AGVA.

Irving will spend the rest of this month laying the groundwork and will then report findings to Shelvey, who will appoint a regional director for the territory. Irving will return to his Chi duties after Jan. 1.

COMEDY PATTERN

For All Branches of Theatrical FUN-MASTER GAG FILMS
Nos. 1 thru 20 @ \$1.00 each
(Nos. 21 thru 25 Ready Soon)
"BOOK OF BLACK-OUTS"
3 Vols. @ \$20.00 Per Vol. or \$50.00 for 3 Vols.
"BOOK OF PARODIES"
10 Book Parodies for \$10.00
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(How to Be an Emcee)
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No C.O.D.'s on any material! If en route, also send permanent address.
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VILLAGE VANGUARD
NEW YORK
NOW
(Indefinitely)

EGYPTIAN MAGIC
GALLOP
CURRENTLY
RAY FAIRBANK
BLACKSTONE HOTEL
CHICAGO
UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF
WM. MORRIS AGENCY
Attention . . .
I am pleased to have been able to introduce a new personality, Pat McCaffrie. Thanks, Pat, for a swell job.
LORRAINE ROGNAN
hanks to the Puritans for a Happy hanksgiving at the New York STRAND and hanks to Santa Claus for dropping the CHICAGO hankie in my stocking for Xmas. Special hanks to my manager, MATTY ROSEN, for his expert guidance he has given me.
Lorraine Rognan

D. C. Negro Admission Issue Heads For Court, No Refund Rule Stays

Washington, Dec. 17.

Printed reports that there may be some easing of the National Theatre's policy against admission of Negroes are here, and the issue seems headed for the courts.

House manager Ed Plonh has made known to the theatre's announcement that it would refuse refunds to ticket purchasers who are refused admission on racial grounds or because they are in the company of those refused admission. Negroes who refused admission to the National Theatre, which has previously declared it would take court action to prevent the inter-racial group is refused admission and denied refund of ticket money. Lobby signs and newspaper advertisements have both publicized the "no refund" policy.

Denying reports of a compromise would result from the theatre's racial ban next season, Plonh declared that "the situation is status quo." Meanwhile, the same racial issue has been stirring up new heat on another front—the Liner Auditorium of George Winchell. Recently here, this is the Auditorium which was picketed during the run of *Of Mice and Men* by the "Liner Only" policy. Liner is now said to have cancelled all outside engagements.

The university's board met recently to take up the question of whether to reverse its long-standing policy of Constitution Hall, where tickets are sold to Negroes. The board postponed the issue until its next meeting, as result has been delayed for vaccination by local civic groups and clergy.

Membership Problem

If and when Equity takes action in the barring of Negroes from admission to legit theatres in Washington, the final result will probably be made by membership referendum. Two main angles are present for the council to decide a solution. Last week's council session was devoted to a vigorous discussion of segregation, although no recommendation from the committee was submitted. Equity is representative of the capital to survey opinion on the barring of Negroes some weeks ago. Two officials were present for the meeting, and several members of the press were interviewed; the report being turned over to the committee. It is noted that most members wished to comment advanced elimination of the ban.

Charles Derwent, Equity's press, appeared at the National Theatre in Washington, he emphatically opposed segregation but he spoke as an individual, not for the whole association. In some quarters it is felt that the situation will clear up. There is no such action on Broadway, and because the national capital is also a metropolitan community, should not be bound by customs of the deep south, it's felt.

It's a question whether the admission of Negroes would affect attendance at the National Theatre, but then does on Broadway. It's believed that plays which appeal to Negroes generally will be appreciated by colored citizens, there such patrons. Matter of fact, it may be a factor, ticket sales for legit theatre are higher than for most other theatre presentations.

So far the managers have taken action on the matter, nor have they stage unions, and until money Equity will decide, on its own. For the time being, the issue has been a stand against dramatists in Washington though the dramatists Guild, as such, has not.

Trudi Schoop Due

For Return to U. S.

Trudi Schoop, a Dutch-born, Comic Relief (22 dancers) are due in America early in January from Holland, doing a 16-week tour of the states beginning with a tour of the states. Toronto Jan. 16-17, company, which plays New York since 1939, will play again in New York and London aren't set yet. S. Hurck is booked.

Miss Schoop and a small dance group have been in Switzerland during the last two years, playing at Cornishen Chateau, Zurich, steadily from 1946 to March '46, then leaving for Europe tour. Come-Comme-dancer will tour with a two-set ballet, "Barbara," on her American tour.

Navy Vet for Legit

Los Angeles, Dec. 17. Lewis & Young, legit producers, signed Roland Morris, Navy veteran, as a forthcoming stage play, "The Story of Mary Surratt."

Place will open in Santa Barbara and move to New York after a brief stand in San Francisco.

Buffalo's Kleinhans

Nixed for Movable

Scenery, Fire Hazard

Buffalo, Dec. 17. Theatrical performances using movable scenery in public auditoriums here are out from now on due to fire hazards, according to an order issued by Mayor Dowd. As a result, opera is banned from the swank Kleinhans Music Hall. The Mayor's insistence is stated to apply to every public building.

Recently the Mayor's office clamped down on standees in local picture houses.

Kleinhans Music Hall is hardest hit because, despite much million dollar stagecraft and equipment, no asbestos curtain, no stage fuses or jets, and no automatic sprinkling system. J. H. Leichner, president of the Hall, stated that the cost of conversion would be more than \$150,000. He pointed to Joe shows at the Memorial Auditorium, where movable scenery is also used. The Mayor dismissed there would be no exceptions.

SCT. PAUL SIEGEL DOING OK WITH POPS, SYMPH

Vienna, Dec. 18. — Sgt. Paul Siegel, the GI songwriter who, in Vienna, who has been writing a swath in the Viennese popular music with a string of hits, breaks records at the Vienna Philharmonic, under Fredrick Fall, plays his "Symphonie Diary" for a Christmas audience of 5,000 soldiers and platters to be sent to the U. S.

Piece is a full-length composition recording Siegel's impressions of war and peace in Italy and Vienna. Siegel has also produced a set of four songs, "The Voice of Europe," set for radio presentation by Herbert Alsen, Vienna State Opera singer.

In the pop field Siegel has nine songs published by firms here and in Switzerland and New York. "Cigarette in Europe" and "In Vienna So Far Away" are top local radio plugs. Being produced by the international set of Red-White-Red U. S.-sponsored Austrian network under the title of "Viennese Jugendmusik as Composer." Top native names have joined Siegel on the air to sing his numbers.

'Mill Partnership

Claim Wins Point

New York Federal Court Judge Henry W. Goddard last week dismissed a motion by Paula Stone and Hunt Stromberg, Jr., to dismiss a claim of one-third partnership in "Red Mill" by Nathan Kurtz. The court ruled that the late administrator for the estate of Jerome L. Kurtz, who is alleged to have a one-third partnership in "Red Mill" Broadway revival being produced by Stromberg and Miss Stone. The court ruled that the partnership, which, according to the plaintiff, the two producers transferred to the company from Red Mill Co. to Red Mill Co. Co., failing to account for a third of the share to the Kurtz estate.

Sherek's Kleinhans

London legit producer Henry Sherek returns Jan. 3 on the Queen Elizabeth which brought him to New York last week, his first trip to the States. Accompanied him was, Sherek accompanied him to the land Young sails with them, both arriving in London with a record-breaking time. The next incoming trip of the Elizabeth will be to New York Jan. 11, brought over Dorothy Dixon, Ivor Novello, Beatrice Lillie, Beverly Sills, Canadian Miss "Critic" of the London Evening Standard, Ronald Miller.

Next Week's Broadway Openings To See Preems on 2 Nights

Rev. Gilbert V. Hartke
(Head of Catholic University Theatre)

"The Closer Tie Today Between the Professional and University Stage"

an editorial feature in the forthcoming 41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

'Shoes' Tries Special Ads in Dailies to Make Admittal Taller Than She Is

Apparently undaunted by Broadway critics who bore down unanimously in castigating the musical, "If the Shoe Fits," recently opened at the Century by Leonard Silman, he inserted extra-space copy in the dailies, with excerpts from favorable notices in Detroit, Cleveland and Boston. Most recent ads of the day appeared Monday (14). Silman insisted "Shoe" would continue undisturbed Jan. 4, but early this week "Topicality of Notre Dame" was advertised to open at the Century Christmas night.

Edgar Luckenbach, Jr., son of the steamship line owner and one of the heaviest investors in "Shoe," credited with saying he'd "bood another ship" if necessary to stay in show business, but he did not specifically mention the Silman musical.

That there was plenty of coin backing "Shoe" was indicated by the list of angles. Equity paid salaries on the first Saturday (7) and credited with saying he'd "bood another ship" if necessary to stay in show business, but he did not specifically mention the Silman musical.

Bookings continued for the Century calls for \$75,000 weekly guarantee to the house, and the show would have remained but the angles probably nixed the idea.

AUTHOR IN NEW SWITCH CHANGES ACTOR'S SEX

Paris, Dec. 5.

Though use of femmes in male parts is frequent here, as witnessed in "Algon," normally done by femmes since Sarah Bernhardt, the sex of a character has been changed for the first time here during the run of a play to permit switching the part from an actor to an actress. In a comedy current at the La Bruyere, titled "Un Ange Passe" ("A Good Guy Goes By"), the actress, who authored the play, cast himself in the part of a sympathetic grandpa. Shortage of suitable actors for the part, illustrating current casting difficulties here, made him change the character from a grandfather to a grandmother when he had to leave the play to fill a vacancy.

This permitted casting Marcelle Geniat, character actress who last year played the angel in "Celine," as the grandmother.

Eckert Goodman's Play

Eckert Goodman, associate editor of "Town & Country," is the author of four-character play, "If This Be Error," which he admits may be too straight for the tastes of Broadway after his large-cast "Many Mansions" of eight years ago he decided on a play for the theatre. "Many Mansions" presented by Dorothy Willard of the Cyrus H. McCormick clan) ran almost 18 months in New York but lost money because of the cost of the company and its \$12,000 net, particularly large in those years. The play was produced by the late Eckert Goodman who, with the late Mortimer Glass, authored the "Polka Dot Promoter" play for the Goodman's. "The Great Romantic" tour in London some years ago with the "Polka Dot Promoter" play for a Broadway version. Alexander Dumas is the central character.

Sudden bookings may account for the confusion of premiere dates next (Christmas) week when four out of five new attractions are slated to show when two nights. Opposed openings on the holiday night are "Wonderful Journey," Cornet, and "The Story of Mary Surratt," both being straight plays. Following evening, "Deanna's Holiday" (exclusively Broadway) and "Topicality of Notre Dame," Century, are dated to ring up, that brace last night's "The Story of Mary Surratt" and "Temper the Wind," Playhouse, first called "Drums of Peace."

There is some indication that a couple of managements involved were well aware that their shows were being crowded out of the second-strand reviewers. Last season there was one opening-night controversy when the "Shoe" failed to hang on the same night as "Are You With It?" followed by plenty of ardent comments from the ardent prospective producers, but two opposed debuts in the same week haven't occurred since.

"Holiday" listed its premiere date well in advance of opening, as has "The Story of Mary Surratt." Opposed shows have rarely been in Boston last week, an after a ragged first opening, "The Story of Mary Surratt" had that the current week was cancelled, management saying the theatre was "out of business" because of a wall-wallop. "Holiday" represents an investment around \$300,000. Century was brought in by the theatre, which is George Abbott, who started charging the show in Boston, in charge.

BOLGER ILLNESS FORCES LAYOFF FOR READY

Although "Three to Make Ready" was among the majority flock of Broadway shows affected by the Christmas slump last week, illness of Ray Bolger, the revue's star, resulted in the show being closed. Adolph at Saturday (14) night's performance. Bolger has been suffering from a cold, which he had previously cancelled a matinee for the same reason. A recent liver complication resulted in his entering the Navy, Medical Center, for tests.

"Three" is expected to resume on Monday (22) and will be followed by the musical "Street Scene."

It is planned to lay off the revue after New Year's for three or four weeks, but as Bolger has the cast can have a vacation, "Three" then would be Chicago for an indefinite period.

Stanley Gilkey and Barbara Payne are producing "Three." In association with the show, "Three" is readying another revue, "Cross Town." Miss Carrington, who is producing "Three," is planning on the book with Draper Lewis. Five writers figure in the production, including the late Jeff Bailey, George Blake and Richard Liebert, Peter Lind Hayes and Robert Alpert are mentioned for the leads.

Cornell-Clinic Due

Back From London

Katharine Cornell and Guthrie McClintic, her husband, are due back from London, Sunday (22), to resume the production of "Sweet Grapes," which she made a speedy trip overseas to confer with Kate O'Brien, who is directing the play. "Sweet Grapes" for Miss Cornell's probable use this season.

Miss Cornell is said to have experienced a heart ailment, which, however, has not been confirmed. Title is tentative for stage usage.

WHORT SHARES IN ESTATE

Actor-director Richard D. Whort shares in the estate of Miss Arletta Lothrop, former superintendent of the Buffalo Five Arts Club, who died in New York last week.

Whort inherits all the family heirlooms, including a large part of the estate going to church organizations and personal friends of the deceased.

Metropolitan Opera General Manager

Edward Johnson

"Is Grand Opera Also A Business?"

an editorial feature in the forthcoming 41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Striking Critic's Opinion Used in Show's Ads As Sub Gets Philly Brush

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.

Drama criticism situation in Philadelphia, scrambled the past month by the strike on the Record, took a fantastic turn last week. Whole editorial staff, including critic Edwin H. Schlotz, has been out, although paper has continued publishing. Edwin H. Schlotz, has been the editorial work. Gilbert Krause, vicepresident and attorney for the Record, has been covering the operations, his sketchy drama background reportedly being filled out by press releases.

"Finian's Rainbow," musical fantasy with social significance background which premiered in Philly last week, was given very favorable reviews by the three other sheets, as well as by couple of radio reviewers. Record's review was unfavorable. Whereupon show's producers got quotes from Schlotz, who, in other sheets, saying "This is what the Record's regular reviewer, Edwin H. Schlotz, has been saying about 'Rainbow.'" Subsequent daily ads carry quotes from all the papers, but "Rainbow" instead of Krause.

Reviewing condition has been hectic because, in addition to Schlotz' absence, the Daily News went out its regular reviewer several weeks. Gerard Gaghan being hospitalized. Situation left one morning paper, the Inquirer, with a regular critic, Linton Martin, and the Evening Bulletin, with Bob Semenderoff.

Situation, therefore, caused all the more wonder recently when "Topicality of Notre Dame" premiered in Philly, the Inquirer's Martin (who is also music critic), passing up the opportunity to comment on the produced Metropolitan Opera Co. presentation, "The Marriage of Figaro," sending a second stringer to cover the legit.

TA DISTRIBUTES 25G TO ACTOR GROUPS

Theatre Authority, which extracts 15% from benefit shows for theatrical relief, has distributed \$25,000 to various talent groups and guilds, the board decided to hold another \$15,000 in reserve. Amount dispersed to the talent unions, such as Equity, American Federation of Actors, American Guild of Musical Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists, Screen Actors Guild, plus the Actors Fund and the Actors' Relief fund.

These, along the League of New York Theatres allocates its share to the actors, Equity going likewise, and a percentage going to the Actors' Fund and the Negro Actors Guild. Similarly, SAG apportions part of its TA share to the Motion Picture Relief fund.

Arrowhead Strawhat

Los Angeles, Dec. 17. New straw hat industry has organized here for showing next summer at Arrowhead Lake, where film stars often spend their week-ends when Palm Springs is too hot.

Straw hat company, headed by Estelle Taylor and Michael Whains, is known as Taylor Productions.

1946 Productions:-

THE FIRST GENTLEMAN (Robert Morley and Wendy Hiller)

MESSAGE FOR MARGARET (Flora Robson)

ELUSIVE LADY (Evelyn Laye and Frank Lawton)

FRIEDA (Barbara Everest and Valerie White)

*THE PLAY'S THE THING (Clive Brook)

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

FROM

HENRY SHEREK

69, PICCADILLY

LONDON, W. 1.

Early 1947 Productions:-

TRUANT IN PARK LANE (Roland Young and
Lilian Braithwaite)

*EDWARD, MY SON (Robert Morley)

RANDOM HARVEST (Gogie Withers)

*WITH GILBERT MILLER

OBITUARIES

DAMON RUNYON

Damon Runyon, 62, columnist and fiction chronicler of Broadway, died in New York, Dec. 10. He has been ailing for some time.

Further details on Page 2.

EDDIE GIBARD

Eddie Gibard, 82, retired vaudeville and music hall performer, died in New York, Dec. 10. He was the nephew and last living relative of the late Percy Williams Home, East Islip, L. I., where he had been living since his retirement from the stage in 1930.

Born in Paterson, N. J., he entered vaudeville at the age of 17 in an act with his brother at Tony Pastor's, N. Y. He later toured vaudeville as a member of the trio act of Seaman, Summers and Gibard and after that had toured for several seasons with Haverly's Minstrels. He later co-starred with Kate Castleton in "Crash Party" and then became co-producer of "Natural Gas" and other productions.

Around the turn of the century he appeared under management of

Klaw & Erlanger in "Jack and the Beanstalk" and "The Geck". He appeared in a number of Broadway & Fields productions as well as several of George M. Cohan's productions, including "My Girl Nellie Kelly." Between frequent assignments he frequently toured vaudeville as an act with his wife, Jessie Gibard, until latter's death.

MARIE LOUISE DANA

Marie Louise Dana, 70, legit actress and widow of Dwight Bates Dana, theatrical manager, died in New York, Dec. 10.

She had been in show business the greater part of her life, having

IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD B. MARKS

Nov. 28th, 1845-Dec. 17th, 1945

made her debut many years ago with Amelia Bingham in "The Climbers" and had since appeared in many productions, including "The Short," "Honey-mooning," "The Return of the Vagabond" and "The Great Gatsby." Her last stage appearance was in New York in 1937 when she appeared with George M. Cohan in the musical "I'd Like to Be Right."

For more than 10 years Mrs. Dana was chairman of the social service bureau of the Catholic Artists Guild. She leaves a son, Kenneth Dana, an actor.

FRANK S. HOOVER

Frank S. Hoover, 71, pioneer cameraman credited with bringing the motion picture studio to Hollywood, died on a train near Wyoming, Dec. 11, of a heart ailment. He had been enroute to Hollywood from N. Y., where he and his wife had been spending a holiday.

Born in Lancaster, Pa., Hoover went to Hollywood in 1899 and had made his home there since. He had set up a photography business during the early years. He introduced Harry Hays, film producer, to take a number of actors from N. Y. to make films there. Hays later made his home in Hollywood and had produced pictures for several years. Hoover later was known as cameraman for David W. Griffith, William Farnum and others. After his retirement in 1930, he had been the Sunset Boulevard resident in Hollywood, where he and his wife had made their home since 1937.

Widow and two sons survive him.

BEN CARTER

Ben Carter, 93, who comprised half the team of Carter and Moreland, died in New York, Dec. 10, of a heart ailment.

He had worked for 20th-Fox and later teamed with Mantan Moreland in a successful comedy team which capitalized on the unfinished sentence routine.

He had recently completed a tour of theatres and was slated to make a television appearance, on NBC for Wednesday (13).

Remains were sent to the Coast for burial.

ROY WILLIAM NEILL

Roy William Neill, 59, Hollywood producer and director, died after heart attack at the home of his nephew and business associate, Sidney Bracy, in Los Angeles, Dec. 10.

Neill had produced a series of Sherlock Holmes films and in recent

years shot chillers as "House of Fear," "Terror by Night" and "Rhythm of Sin." He also directed about 25 years ago he directed silent film productions starring Norma Talmadge, Dorothy Dahan and others.

Prior to going to Hollywood to enter the film producing and directing he had been an actor, appearing mostly in stock companies throughout the U. S.

Widow and two daughters survive him.

CHARLES E. FOREMAN

Charles E. Foreman, 78, former manager of burlesque companies and theatres on the burlesque circuit, died in New York, Dec. 11.

For several years he had been company manager for burlesque shows for Barney Gerard, Gus Hill and Harry C. Mijer. He also managed the Empire theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., when that house appeared with burlesque.

Survived by widow, May Walsh, a former actress.

GEORGE FREDERIC NORTON

George Frederic Norton, British composer, who wrote the music for "Chu Chin Choo" and other musical shows, died in London, Dec. 15.

Early in his career he had sung and toured the Continent in various opera companies. He later diverted to composing music. His works included "Pines and the Fairies" and "Pamela."

CYDIE DULAC BROWN

Cydie Dulac Brown, 34, former manager, London & Alcor's Theatre, St. Louis, died in St. Louis following his death on the Coast.

He was manager of the Fox theatre, Fullerton, Calif. at the time of his death.

STEPHEN OLSEN

Stephen Olsen, 46, screen actor and brother of Ole Olsen, of Olsen and Johnson, died Dec. 14 at his home in Van Nuys, Cal., of a sinus infection.

Before entering pictures five years ago, Olsen appeared in the comedy team of Olsen and Alexander.

ROBERT DYRENFORTH

Robert Dyrenforth, 60, radio actor, died in Chicago, Dec. 11.

Dyrenforth appeared in "Curly Haines," Famous Artists, "Mystery House" and "The Whistler," programs.

Surviving are his widow and son.

A. C. WALTERHOUSE

A. C. Walterhouse, 77, active in the newspaper and theatrical advertising field in Miami for 40 years died Dec. 14 at Ceresco, Mich.

He had been advertising manager for the Miami Beach Playhouse for a number of years.

GEORGE JENNER

George Jenner, 70, dresser to the late George Arliss for 33 years and later in Hollywood, died in Hollywood, Monday (16). He had been in films seven years.

Widow survives.

Mother of A. D. Magarian, owner of the Delancey and Cagney theatres in St. Louis, died in a fire which destroyed her home in East St. Louis.

Mother, 63, of Rodney White, manager of RKO Republic theatre, died in Savannah, Ga., Dec. 8.

FATHER, 95, of cartoonist Rube Goldberg, died Dec. 9 in San Francisco after long illness.

Wife, 28, of bandleader Hot Lips Page, died Dec. 12, in New York. Burial was in Montgomery, Ala.

Father, 90, of Emmett Callahan, legend music manager, died in Toledo, Dec. 15.

Tax Cut

Continued from page 3

Consequently, wiping out of excess income tax a rise in payments of income taxes, now down to a 38% ceiling.

Father's \$12,000,000 Appeal

Paul's \$12,000,000 in the appeal is Paramount, which pockets an estimated \$12,000,000, which had the old law been in effect, it would have been paid additionally to the Government.

Second line in 20th-Fox, with an

added \$30,000,000 in it. If. For the 38 weeks ended Sept. 28, 20th doted out \$12,730,000 in Federal taxes on a \$51,446,760 gross, while for the same period of '45, the company was asked to pay \$13,000,000 on a \$26,140,382 gross.

Other companies will have effected savings as follows:

Warner Bros., \$5,000,000.

About 25 years ago he directed Metro for its fiscal year, ended Sept. 1, \$2,000,000.

Universal, with its fiscal year closed Nov. 3, \$1,250,000.

Columbia, with the windup June 30, \$400,000.

Latter three companies, of course, received only partial benefit from the new law, which cut their fiscal periods cut across '45 when the tax was effective and '46 when it was off.

Increase in patronage at theatres turns up to be a minor factor. More effective than a climb in attendance was the hiking of admission scales which did much to account for the

\$9,540,000 saved compared with the Federal government. Additional

aid, which detracts from increased attendance as accounted for, to gain in earnings, is the upping of rental terms, a process which continues to operate.

Rise in foreign take continued over the year as theatres in large numbers closed their doors in the devastated Europe. Proportion of worldwide business to domestic, down to 40% in 1945, now has

mounted to over 40% in the current year, with signs of continued, if slow, advance.

MARRIAGES

How Gray to William Raynor, Jr., New York, Dec. 12. Bride is with

foreign publicity department in advertising staff of RKO pictures.

Dorothy Machine to Sam H. Tuck, New York, Dec. 10. Bride is a

dancer; groom is stage manager at El Palo theatre, New York.

How Gray to Max Roth, New York, Dec. 15. Groom is with the

Bernard Burke talent agency.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bryan, daughter, Hollywood, Dec. 11. Father is

assistant director for "Forever Amore," Fox.

Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson, Philadelphia, Dec. 4. Father is with service department of KVM in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brandt, son, Hollywood, Dec. 10. Father is an

actor in the process.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sheldon, son, New York, Nov. 28. Father is radio

actor and producer. McCann, actress and radio commentator.

Mr. and Mrs. Renald Ross, Pittsburgh, Dec. 4. Father's on staff

of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Walters, son, Pittsburgh, Dec. 5. Father's in Nixon

theater company.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Debold, daughter, Daytona Beach, Fla. Father manages Model theatre,

Pittsburgh.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gallagher, son, Hollywood, Dec. 9. Father is secretary

of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. and Mrs. DeValon Scott, son, Hollywood, Dec. 10. Father is a

screen writer.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Loewner, daughter, New York, Dec. 12. Father's the

owner of the Jules Archer, Conn., their second, in Sharon, Conn., Dec. 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Loewner, daughter, New York, Dec. 12. Father's the

owner of the Jules Archer, Conn., their second, in Sharon, Conn., Dec. 7.

Mother is daughter of Lou Weinberg, Columbia Pictures sales ex-

ecutive.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. (Ned) Trueman, daughter, Albany, N. Y.,

Dec. 12. Father is a radio actor and announcer at WOKO and WABY in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Eagle, son, Hollywood, Dec. 12. Father's the

owner of the Charles Eagle, Stanley theatre manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Schirra, daughter, Pittsburgh, Dec. 12. Father's

ast. mgr. of Penn theatre.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hart, daughter, New York, Dec. 12. Father's

theater manager.

Mother is Louise Valley of the stage; father is a screen actor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hayes, daughter, Los Angeles, Dec. 10. Father is

radio writer-producer.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Kaye, daughter, New York, Dec. 12. Father is

the comedian; mother is Sylvia Fine, Kaye's material writer and col-

league.

Mr. and Mrs. James Roth, daughter, New York, Dec. 13. Father is

in the RKO operating dept.

Night Club Reviews

Continued from page 69

Bio Cabana, C.

semi-mule stunt in the "Vanities,"

offer speedy routines. Pair do

streamlined versions of solo act

and then to the band.

Joe, in talk, and Inga in flow-

er, in a duet which includes a

parody, revealing tight-fitting, scanty

"Smoke Gets in Your Eyes,"

and "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes."

Clark and Clifford. Clifford best

known when he starts, off with

burlesque on card tricks, then

balloons and a duet with Clifford

providing offbeat nonsense

vocalizing. By this time payees

aren't certain as to what kind of

these boys are in until they get

down to some serious music work.

Their balancing is flawless and

shows some large and earnest work.

Closing head balance is terrific and

gets attention from crowd.

Cross and Dunn remind payees in

their opener that "It's Been a Whole

Year Since We've Been together,"

seems to have happened to them in

last time. Dunn comes up with a

streamlining, having thrown off 25

pounds. Expecting to hear some of

the entire batch of new material in

the act, they are disappointed to find

a parody on Pres. Truman's filling

Washington with his Missouri con-

stitution, a real belter.

How hasn't quieted from that

is a real belter.

"Union For The Married Man."

Good timing, too, makes way for

Ge Davidson orch backs show in

usual fine style.

Frolics Club, Miami

Miami, Dec. 12.

Margie Hart, Eddie "Nuts" Kaplan

with Lillian Brown, Patricia Lee,

Zinghoff, Lillian Melbo, Bert St.

Har, Tony Morrow, Toots Shor,

Line (18), Harry Caudillo (9);

admission \$1-2.

Latest entry in the nitery field

of the burlesque is the act in-

stituted by Charlie Lewis in his

new 800 seater which has been a

very element for its ops in past

seasons. Whether the policy will

wind up in the end, it is hard to

moment, though the first week of

operation saw some fairly good

business, and it is hard to say

that he hasn't changed the format of

his routine to any marked degree in

the years of his theatrical solo act.

The payees know what they're going

to get, and he has been practically sold

the same usual, debonair Brinson

and all the other things which go

with the act. The act is a

stable career. Topping all the

others is the act of the

and knows when he starts, off with

burlesque on card tricks, then

balloons and a duet with Clifford

providing offbeat nonsense

vocalizing. By this time payees

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is a real belter.

"Union For The Married Man."

Good timing, too, makes way for

Ge Davidson orch backs show in

usual fine style.

Clover Club, Miami

Miami, Dec. 11.

Lillian Cornell, Ned Long, Jr.,

Pierce & Roland, Lillian Melbo,

and Tony Lope; Orch; Min,

25-30.

Current package, though not rock

and roll, is the background and is

"BE LOVELIER TONIGHT!"

**"My Beauty Facials
bring quick new
Loveliness"**

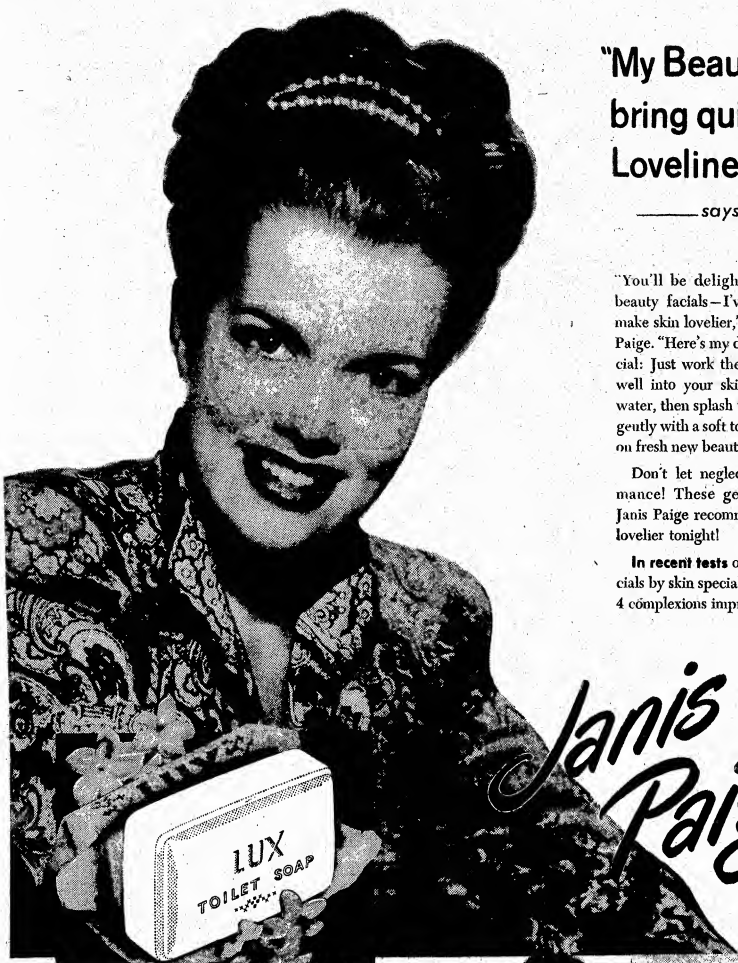
— says this famous star —

"You'll be delighted with Lux Soap beauty facials—I've found they really make skin lovelier," says charming Janis Paige. "Here's my daily Active-lather facial: Just work the rich fragrant lather well into your skin. Rinse with warm water, then splash with cold. As you pat gently with a soft towel to dry, skin takes on fresh new beauty!"

Don't let neglect cheat you of Romance! These gentle beauty facials Janis Paige recommends will make you lovelier tonight!

In recent tests of Lux Toilet Soap facials by skin specialists, actually 3 out of 4 complexions improved in a short time.

*Janis
Paige*



A product of Lever Bros. Company



"Janis Paige is right! Active-lather facials with Lux Soap are easy and easy but they really work."



"As you pat with a soft towel to dry, you know your skin is softer, smoother—really lovelier!"



Lux Girls know lovely appealing skin is a charm that wins admiration, Romance—makes dreams come true!

JANIS PAIGE
starring in Warner Bros.

*"The Time, the Place
and the Girl"*
Soon to be seen locally

9 out of 10 Screen Stars use Lux Toilet Soap — Lux Girls are Lovelier!

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VOL. 165 No. 3

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1946

PRICE 25 CENTS

WALL ST. COOL IN 'WOOD GLAMOR

20,000,000 Foreign-Language Records Tops to Date; It's 7% of RCA Biz Alone

Foreign-language disks had a banner year in 1946 with estimated total sales of some 20,000,000 platters pressed by all manufacturers. RCA-Victor alone expects to triple its sales in the coming year, according to Frank A. McCall, manager of RCA's International Record sales division. RCA made at least one-third of the total, he said, and opined that 15,000,000 were sold domestically while the balance was exported.

Aggregate sales of RCA-Victor may top 100,000,000 this year, McCall estimated, with foreign language disks providing roughly 7% of the total. Export market, he declared, suffered at the expense of heavy domestic demand since, from the point of distribution, it was more feasible to sell platters in the U. S. than shipping out abroad.

However, McCall pointed out that the export market should be nurtured and encouraged for business reasons do not, as a rule, occur simultaneously throughout the world. "Therefore foreign markets," he said, "will stand the record makers in good stead when the domestic demand tapers off."

RCA's platter output would have Continued on page 47

PLATTER BIZ HYPOED BY WESTINGHOUSE MOVE

Hollywood, Dec. 23. Entry of the Westinghouse Corp., through a newly formed subsid, Artists Records, Inc., into the recording industry may hypno the platter-peddling biz by swiping open numerous new outlets. Electrical appliance firms plan to use all its franchised retail distrib.

Former Janssen, Inc. prez of Artists Records and already in the works here are plans to wax albums, starting with synth stuff and working down through standard fare into the pop end. According to present plans, the Westinghouse store at first will handle only Artists' disks with open labels. It is estimated that close to 20,000 new retail outlets will be created for the platter biz.

\$2,100,000 Cuffo Air Time For '46 Treasury Salutes

Treasury Salute, 15-minute transcribed program planned by Treasury Savings Bonds and carried weekly over 1,000 stations, will be its current series, Dec. 28. A new transcribed series is being planned for bond campaigns during 1947. Treasury estimates that a total of \$2,100,000 in radio time was contributed without charge this fall by all broadcast, radio and sponsors for the fall bond drive.

In two regular net shows, CBS Benetke and orchestra Saturday 8 p. m., and MBS "Band for Bonds," led by Johnny Barlow's orchestra, Saturdays at 12:30 p. m., are being continued.

Okla.'s Gov. Turner Sells 2 Outates to Rep

Hollywood, Dec. 23. Roy J. Turner, who last month was elected Governor of Oklahoma, has sold two of his original outates, "Old Lazy L" and "Hereford Howard," to Republic Pictures for inclusion in a forthcoming Roy Rogers starring.

The Sooner State exec broomed in late last week to confer with Republic on possibility of another Rogers sageruber, being located on Turner ranch in Oklahoma panhandle, where "Back Home in Oklahoma" was filmed last summer.

Turner joins the act of clefting and singing politicians that includes Senator Les Pappy O'Daniel of Texas and a flock of other hillbilly tune stumblers.

Lastfogel Sees Agent Being Forced to Give Greater Selling Efforts

Vetraan agent Abe Lastfogel, g.m. of the William Morris agency, sees a need for a greater contribution by show-wise agents. If boxoffice potency is to be maintained, with the already evidenced shopping for values by amusement-goers, it is being reflected in everything from radio to pictures, from niteries to vaudeville.

The downbeat of the bands, for instance, is in inverse ratio to the extent of vaudeville and niterie attractions. Personalities from radio, pictures and disks are taking on added values, even though they heyday of the band business seems to have passed, at least for the moment. It means that the safe draw of the Milton Berle-Sophie Tucker-Joe Lewis-Hildegarde school can continue as potentially a regrettable loss of the new caution manifested in the public's spending, because the show attractions will continue to know-how and showmanship that will always pay off.

In radio, says Lastfogel, smart showmanship is evidenced in packaging of talent, for instance. No longer is it a case of spotting a band here or an act there. The smart agent must be a showman who can sit in with the business men who must now engage in the practical objective of all exploitation—selling. And a radio show has more—and there are more than a quota of these this season—judicious succor from talent agencies and managements cannot only resuscitate a win show but do a lot to prolong the values of the act.

What is on the plus side in the field, observes Lastfogel, is that the return of much young manhood from the services has had a salutary effect all around.

SUSPICION SINKS STOCK LEVELS

Wall Street's continued wariness over film stocks after a year of record profits by the majors has film toppers believing that not even dollar-and-cents earnings can over-estimate the financial suspicion of Hollywood glamor. Pointed out is that the Street's rock bottom computation for what a stock is worth takes the quotation at eight times a company's annual equivalent stock earnings. On that basis, New York Exchange quotations on majors common is from 25% to 40% below what it ordinarily should be.

Paramount which has had a tremendous year, earning \$8.24 per share for its stockholders, is cited as an example of financial fearfulness. Price is at 32 and that despite the fact that Par, on a Simon-pure common stock basis, has no real earning commensurate whatsoever. On accepted and customary computation, company should be bringing in a 50 figure on exchange bidding.

As other instances, toppers point to Columbia with a price of 22 which should be 35 on \$4.43 earnings; RKO now bringing 10 but calling for 21 on \$2.99 per share; 20th-Fox, quoted at 39 but entitled to 50 on \$5.80 and Warner Bros., with an 18 price tag, but meeting 32 on \$3.98 earnings.

Number of other stocks such as steel, oil, automobiles and chemicals, Wall Street conceives, are computed on a basis from 10 to 15 times (Continued on page 46)

Old Tax Bogey Dims Guest Shots

There's been a noticeable slump in guest shot appearances on the top air shows during the closing two months of the year. It isn't accidental. The boys have been finding it plenty tough to ink in guest stars, and they're giving up on it after the usual answer has been: "After the first of the year we'll be available."

It's strictly a tax gimmick, with the folks of great shot personalities who usually make a habit of cutting the shows, figuring they've made all the coin they can keep this season, and from here on in they additional coin would revert to taxes.

In fact some of them have been huddling with their lawyers to determine if they can't defer the first of the year for year-end guest shows can be applied to next year's taxes.

Tauber's Carnegie Record

Richard Tauber, vet Viennese singer, whose Broadway lecture "You're My Heart," popped in the fall, recently appeared at Carnegie Hall, N. Y., and grossed \$100,000 to set the house record for the season. Shiner has been booked by Columbia for his last recording, a bean tour, for a series of 18 dates starting Jan. 21 in Paramount City.

Show Biz Reveals Particular Welcome To Pres. Truman's 'Prosperity' Pitch

Savo's First Comeback Date in Covington, Ky.

Cincinnati, Dec. 23. Jimmy Savo, whose leg was amputated earlier this year, has started his comeback at the Lookout house, Covington, Ky. Using an artificial limb, Savo, it's reported, is able to do all his old routines with the exception of "River Stay Away From My Door," which necessitates his getting on his knees.

After further out-of-town dates, Savo will visit New York cafes. He has offers from all the spots he worked previously, which includes Cafe Society Uptown, the Persian Room, and also has an offer from the Wedgwood room of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Cantor, Crosby Kicks Just a Lot of Fiction To Harvard Sociologist

Boston, Dec. 23. Prof. Carlo C. Zimmerman, Harvard sociologist, hung the blast on Hollywood, and Southern California in general, here last week, claiming film people a "synthetic childless population" whose habits and customs are "contributing to the decay of family life in America."

Apparently overlooking the Crosby, Cantors and others in the film capital who have plenty of kids, the professor said that to understand Hollywood you have to realize that the whole of Southern California has a purely synthetic, childless population. The people are useless, don't have any children and are completely lost.

"In this setting," he said, "there has been the development of a great industry which comes into almost every home in the country. These comparatively simple people with (Continued on page 47)

President Truman's Advisory Council's report last week predicting an era of prosperity was welcomed by show business. It was in strong contrast to the pre-holiday slump. Because general conditions are reflected by show business patronage, it's hoped that spending will be more general, and thus amusements should naturally benefit. There had been reports that sales of high-cost articles had dropped sharply in the stores, generally. Legit theatre tickets could be included among such items.

Prediction of mounting industrial production was tempered by the warning that strikes would retard prosperity, but if such labor unrest is reduced to a minimum, there is no reason, it's held, why amusements should not flourish. Elimination of jurisdictional strikes, such as the current one in Hollywood, by means of arbitration was proposed by Paul Dillbuck, one of Equity leaders, at the American Federation of Labor convention in Chicago early in the fall.

His remarks, however, but the executive council has apparently hot (Continued on page 47)

HOMEBREW CHITCHAT WINS OVER FOREIGN

Dominic news from Washington, New York and anywhere around the country is more important now to listeners than foreign news, according to William F. Brooks, NBC vicepres in charge of news and special events.

Brooks last week pointed to Morgan Beatty's 7:15 p. m. "News of the World" status, Mondays-to-Fridays as illustration of his thesis. Beatty took John Vandercrook's place when the latter was shipped off the network in September. Vandercrook's Hooperating ranged from 4 to 5; Beatty's average last 8 with a peak of 11.5. Both are sponsored by the (Continued on page 47)

The Hour Of Charm

All-Girl Orchestra and Choir

Conducted by

Phil Spitalny

Sundays, 4:30 P.M., EST.

CBS Network



ELEANOR

Korda Likely to Align With Selznick On a Reciprocal Releasing Deal

While no releasing deal between David O. Selznick and Sir Alexander Korda has been finalized yet, it appears likely that Korda will make an arrangement with the Selznick Releasing Organization or some other, indie, rather than a major since this will provide an opportunity for a reciprocal releasing agreement abroad. Korda's British Lion outfit will undoubtedly handle RKO films in Britain and on the Continent if any agreement is reached at all.

Reports that a deal had been made by Selznick and Korda brought forth from the latter the statement, relayed by his public office: "It is absolutely untrue that any agreement has been finalized." It was added, however, that there have been talks between the producers and a deal is entirely within the realm of possibility.

Sir Alex is currently studying three other potential deals, it is said, while vacationing in Florida with his wife, to Eudora. He is due in New York from the south Dec. 31 and sails on the Queen Elizabeth Jan. 1.

Two of the other possible deals are with majors and one with another indie independent studio. One considered more favorably by Korda, since the majors have offices which have no interest in a reciprocal arrangement for distribution of their product there. On the other hand, terms can be worked out which are mutually satisfactory to the two producers. Korda's well-known British Lion Continental releasing setup would fall right in with Selznick's plans.

Better Abroad
Problem of the terms is a knotty one, since it is considerably more profitable to distribute American pictures abroad than it is to handle foreign films in this country. That's one of the reasons that Sir Alex has been favorably on the offered to the major companies in this country. Korda is planning to make his films as popular as possible to American audiences, however, via generous use of Hollywood players and applicable production techniques, he employed during his tenure as an American producer.

In the matter of techniques, Sir Alex is doing everything possible to educate his staff in Hollywood's ways. He has had a constant succession of technicians shuttling to California to study methods. Two men are there now, in fact, and the first in New York on his way from London to the Coast.

Presently pondering American studio methods are John Cox, senior engineer, and Law Thornburn, Korda's technical troubleshooter. On his way is John Stapleton, studio manager of both Korda's British plants.

Another effort to conform to American standards is seen in employment by Sir Alex of his brother, Zoltan, who leaves for England Feb. 1 to assume a grosser-director assignment. He just completed directing "The Macomber Affair," a Benedict Arnold production, for United Artists release.

Kibbee, Stone, Kelk Set For Hospital Circuit

Hollywood, Dec. 22.

Guy Kibbee is the first actor to take on the veterans hospital tour under the new setup arranged by the Hollywood Coordinating Committee and USO-Camp Shows. Gen. Omar N. Bradley revived the hospital tours after an offer of the committee, supported by the Screen Actors Guild.

Kibbee, who will tour for 14 days on a junket through Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, will be followed by Ezra Stone and Jackie Kelk. Tours were suspended after the war's end during a change-over from military to Veterans Administration operation.

Paul Gordon's Co.

Paul Gordon, indie producer who recently completed a film, "That We May Live," will head newly-formed producing outfit to be called "Two Continents Pictures."

Company will produce films both here and abroad in English and foreign versions.

Frank Sullivan

tells of the

"Vigil for Van"

in the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Out Soon

FBI Nabs Sailor Bootlegging Pix

Los Angeles, Dec. 24.

Theodore Alven Gilman, 24, merchant seaman, was arrested by FBI agents in Westminster, Cal., charged with violating the Federal copyright law through the sale of a 16m Technicolor film titled "Meet Me in St. Louis." He was taken to a rooming house at San Pedro, Federal operatives found five reels of U-S Navy films, "Every Night," Columbia feature pictures, including "Along Came Jones," an RKO release; "Tonight and Every Night," Columbia "Affairs of Suzanne" and "Till We Meet Again," Paramount; "Oh, Human Bondage," Warner; "Sing Your Way Home," RKO; "The Merry Monarchs," Universal, and "Don Juan Quilligan," 20th-Fox.

Understood these films had been made available by picture companies for overseas showing to Navy men before they came into Gilman's possession. He was held in \$500 bail by U. S. Commissioner A. M. Bradley.

WAR ACTIVITIES COMM.

EXPENDED \$2,111,706

War Activities Committee, in its four war years of operations, expended a total of \$2,111,706 of which the eight majors paid two-thirds and the balance, George J. Schneider, WAC chairman, announced yesterday (22). Surplus of \$84,000 remaining with the units' windup has been returned to the participants. The balance covers only a small fraction of the total industry contribution which includes, among other things, a \$40,000 outlay in the form of a gift of 43,189 feature 16m prints and 32,217 shorts.

Of expenses incurred by the WAC, final accounting disclosed \$758,654, paid out on national loan campaigns; \$287,000 for rawstock in the industry's 16m gift program; \$193,250 as cost of production and distribution of "Watchtower Over Tomorrow"; United Nations documentary handed over to the State Dept.; and \$638,685 balance covering all other expenses.

Industry also added in collections totaling \$36,874,436 in which it collected, cuffs, 1,200 pages of ads.

Sues on Weissmuller Pic

Los Angeles, Dec. 23.
Daniel F. Greenhouse filed suit in Superior Court against the Lou Mess Picture Corp., demanding the return of \$10,000.

Plaintiff declared he handed Mess that sum for production of a film starring Johnny Weissmuller. Later, he says, he discovered that Mess had no contract with Weissmuller.

Minus 'Duel' UA Muns 'Carnegie,'

'Arch' Roadshow

With David O. Selznick's "Duel

is, the Sun" apparently eliminated from United Artists' release slate, company will make a choice between two other films for roadshow handling. Grad Sears, v.p. in charge of distribution, declared last week following his return from a Coast jaunter at the company's forthcoming product. Choice will be made between Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph" and Morris-LeBaron's "Carnegie."

UA top predicted \$10,000,000 word grosses for both pictures. He declared that he had been in lengthy discussions with Enterprise chiefs Charles Kinfeld and David Lowy on policy for the two films and had decided to wait until picture was completed and release time is closer before coming to a conclusion on whether it should be roadshown. If the decision is against it, "Carnegie" apparently will automatically be dropped.

Later film, Sears said, because of the unusual array of top musical

Theatre Lobby Tables

For Charity Drives Now

Ruleed Hazardous in N.Y.

Metropolitan exhibits may keep no bitter tears over it but theatre charities have received another body blow in the latest case of the New York City Fire Dept. Municipal bureau, tightening regulations which were slackened during the war, has now banned all hat-passing in theatre lobbies. Use of tables and personnel in the house entrance, fire chiefs say, violates city ordinances since it constitutes an obstruction to fire patron delays in case of fire. Consequently, they're out along with obstructing placards and in-lane decorations. Rules were overlooked during the war so that theatres could go all-out on war drives.

STURGES GOES 20TH

AS DIRECTOR-WRITER

Hollywood, Dec. 23.

Preston Sturges joins 20th-Fox as the first of the year's new director-writer, with initial chore to handle one of his own stories in the dual capacity. Negotiations had been in progress since Sturges left the Howard Hughes setup in October, with inkling on the final papers taking place over the weekend.

Sturges, during the negotiations, sold 20th his original "The Great Dictator" which has nothing to do with the present deal.

Selznick-UA Duel in the Courts Starts Cham Reaction of Law Suits

W. A. S. Douglas

In his exploration through the

midwest discovers that

"Jesse James Is Still

Packin' 'Em In"

an editorial feature

in the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Selznick's Claims For \$13,500,000

Los Angeles, Dec. 23.

David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films, Inc. filed two suits here last Friday (20), asking a total of \$13,500,000 in damages from United Artists, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin. One suit for \$6,000,000 against Miss Pickford and Chaplin—Selznick's partners in UA—was filed in California Superior Court. The other, asking for \$7,500,000 from UA, was instituted in Federal district court here.

Essence of the action against Miss Pickford and Chaplin is that they "maliciously conspired to deprive Selznick's company of a distribution agreement." The second suit charges "deliberate and wilful mishandling of Selznick's productions, including the sale of weaker product of other producers on the strength of the Selznick pictures."

Suits grew out of recent action by the UA board in endeavoring to out Selznick as a partner in the company and withhold distribution privileges from him. UA claims he

(Continued on page 26)

BOB VINING SUCCEEDS

GOODMAN IN BERLIN

Berlin, Dec. 23.

Robert Vining, of the New York office of the Motion Picture Export and Motion Picture Export Ass'n, will arrive here around Jan. 1 to succeed Morris Goodman as MPEA rep in Germany. Vining joined the MPEA last May 15 and has been serving as special representative of prey Eric Johnston with the MPEA, acting as liaison between the two organizations. He's slated to leave New York for Germany before the end of the year.

Goodman, in keeping with his original understanding with the MPEA, terminates his European assignment Jan. 16. He has been here more than a year and is seeking a change because of the rigorous life. Goodman and his wife, Paula, will visit their children, in school in Switzerland, before leaving.

The \$13,500,000 pair of lawsuits which David O. Selznick filed against United Artists, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin last week are the beginnings of the series of legal actions which are expected in the dispute. Selznick's suits make no mention of the block of stock representing a one-third ownership in UA which his claims is his and Chaplin's. Miss Pickford must also should revert to them. That stock, lawyers say, certainly be the subject of lawsuits filed by both parties.

Block of shares is now in escrow, where it was placed when the Selznick-UA agreement was signed in 1942. Producer was to get 1 when he delivered 10 picture units to the company, but meantime he had dividend and voting privileges. Selznick plans to sue to have the stock turned over to him, despite the fact that he has delivered only three films, on the claim that UA has breached the contract and thus prevented him from delivering the other pictures. Chaplin and Miss Pickford, who comprise the other two owners of UA, will sue to have the stock returned to the company treasury on the claim that Selznick breached his part by turning over picture packages to RKO; stock is valued at from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Meantime, UA is awaiting word from the law firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Shattuck and Kientz as to whether it will handle the actions the company is desirous of instituting against Selznick. Answer is expected from the firm of which John W. Davis is senior member, after the holidays.

The holding on suit against Selznick, which he filed a couple of years ago, is expected to be merged or tried simultaneously with the new suits that UA, as a company, and Miss Pickford and Chaplin are planning. Selznick forces claim, incidentally, that Chaplin's attorneys

(Continued on page 26)

Art Directors Win New

Pat With Majors

Hollywood, Dec. 23.
Motion Picture Art Directors inked a new contract with the major studios retroactive to July 1, 1946, and calling for a general wage increase of 25%.

The pact contains a provision new in studio pacts and likely to become standard in future negotiations. It calls for an automatic wage increase if the cost of living index in this territory goes up 5% or more. The pact also will be determined by the rise in living costs.

L. A. to N. Y.

Larry Adler

Nell Agnew

Louise Albritton

Benedict Boggs

Sam Briskin

Jon Caulfield

Olin Criss

Howard DaSilva

Richard Derr

Josephine Duff

William Elliott

Gary Grant

Pauline Harcourt

William Heintzen

Cleste Holt

Hal Hirsch

Sam Hurok

Sam Katzman

Howard Koch

Norman Krasma

Matthew M. Levy

Charles Livick

George Milne

Dolores Moran

Norman Pines

Jack Pomeroy

George J. Schaefer

Edward Schillborn

Marvin Schenck

Bill Shirley

Pauline Sheraton

Frank Walker

Herbert J. Yates

N. Y. to L. A.

Ted Baunfield

Johnny Mercer

Blush Owen

N. Peter Rathvon

N. Y. to Europe

Henry Sherck

Roland Young

N. Y. to N. Y.

Jean Benoit-Levy

Irvin Shapiro

George Shearing

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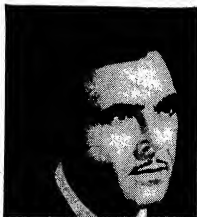


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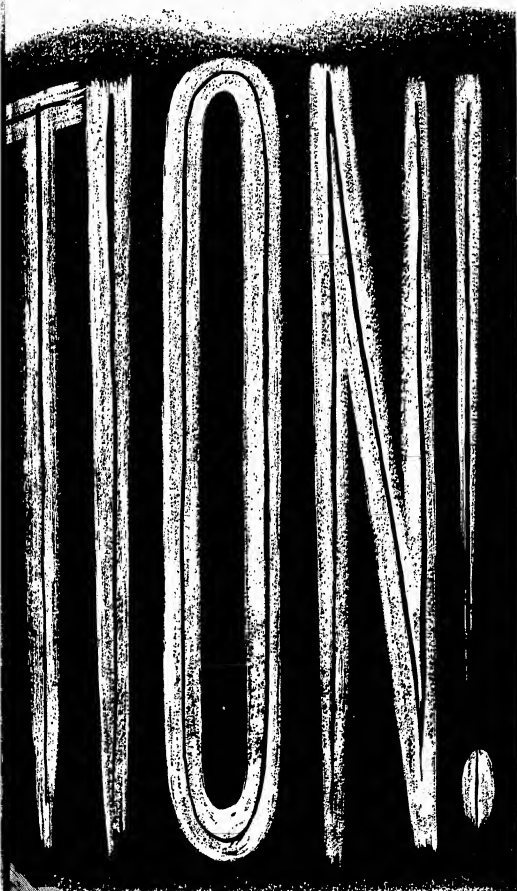
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"I'm the only man alive who knows her secret...the only man who cannot tell!"

Screenplay by Robert Thoren
From the Novel "Bella Donna" by Robert Hood
And the play by James Bernard Fagan
Directed by IRVING PICHEL
Produced by EDWARD SMALL
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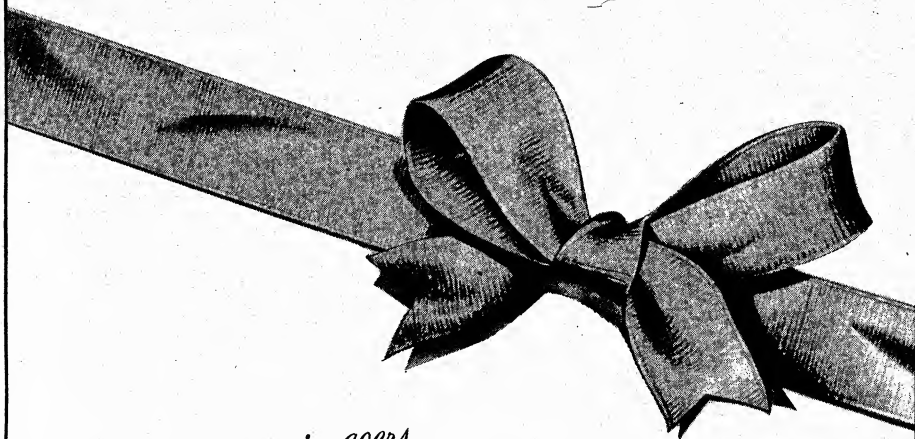
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"Temptation"



50,000,000 movie goes

~~You~~ can't resist it!

Par, M-G Test-Packaged Shorts To Hypo Sales, Replace B's on Duals

Puzzling separately but reaching the same answer, Paramount and M-G have shaped similar plans for moving flinch shorts caused by the decline of B's. Currently under the aegis of B's, the Paramount idea is to package "number of shorts, plus with hyped, expensive, duals. Other majors are keenly interested in the plan with indications that practice would ripple out widely should it prove its b.o. pull.

First returns on the Brooklyn test were tagged successful by both Par's b.o. execs and Gene Pleshette, theatre manager, who said that house earned particular boost in matinee patronage. Weekend endowments brought in two-and-a-half times usual number of kids, Pleshette said, while Monday (23) morning's harvest of moviegoers climbed to three times the usual. Par's execs were satisfied that the innovation would be tops for school holidays and weekend periods.

Brooklyn theatre's switch to packaging of shorts, Metrolas was made during fourth week of "Two Years Before the Mast." Staff was instructed to book the adult content, which has been only one week but Metrolas will be for good book more packages.

Meanwhile, satisfied with results, M-G will give distribution of package of seven shorts to a number of other wholly owned houses with its Brooklyn theatre and its New York spot. Par's affiliates will also be asked to play the briefies if later results of the shorts are good.

Shorts deal, will also swing into general sales of the packages to unaffiliated outlets. Metro's plan includes use of a commentary by a Metro star to tie the package together. Package would then be sold to an exhib at a price commensurate with the size of the shorts and no higher than he would ordinarily pay for a second feature on a dual bill, to be booked as a replacement for the second feature.

In another plan to boost the sale of shorts, Metro is selecting one two shorts to blend in with each picture in a single-bill, house. Idea behind the move is to make the shorts an integral part of the film program in an effort to boost rentals. The move is being tested. Metro has already selected "I Love My Husband, But..." a Pele Smith picture to go with "The Great Roll By" and "I Love My Wife, But..." to go with "The Yearling."

At Metro execs pointed out there's a tremendous backlog of shorts that have never seen the light of day in dual-feature houses. The move is a book in only a newswire and possibly a cartoon to go with their two long features.

COLUMBIA PLANS TO UP SHORTS RENTALS 25%

Rentals on Columbia's short subjects will be upped approximately 25% in all situations during the year. The move is being planned by sales manager Maurice Gray. With the price rise Col is following the tack of other majors who have planned to hike rentals several weeks ago.

Reasons for the move are increasing overall costs, including production, distribution and exchange costs. Biggest gap comes from production department, where cuts in film stock which cost 50% on some shorts and have averaged out to about a 30% overall hike.

Most of the big companies, Col has no plans for film cutbacks. Number of shorts to be released this year during 1947 will be usually cut to around 14 each year, down from 16 to 10 or a dozen Col's total is not expected to be cut over 130, largely because of shortages. Including Technicolor print costs, Col had hoped to release about a dozen color shorts, but because of the shortage of color labs, has abandoned hope for all but about two.

Howard Dietz
(vespee of Loew's, Inc.)
humorously treats with a certain trade paper in

"The Spice of Life"

an editorial feature
in the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

VARIETY

Zukor Levels "Conniving" Blast Against British

Blast by Adolph Zukor against "sinister influences" in England and elsewhere which have had Hollywood on the postwar grudge, aired last week at Paramount luncheon, is keying industry jitterers over possible quota moves by the British Parliament. At the same time, Zukor swapped indirect blows with Sir Arthur Jarryt associate of Sir Alexander Korda, who recently pasted Hollywood for failing to provide proper distribution for British picture industry. Sir is the groundsweeper of overseas criticism may spur Parliament to pass drastic legislation curtailing playing time for American film when the subject comes up for consideration in March, 1948.

Zukor was careful to intimate that J. Arthur Rank was not the target for his attack, both in his definition of the enemy as producers of "maybe 16 films in their entire lifetime" and in a previous statement made to Variety. Zukor's embarrasment from the Queen Elizabeth, the week before. Of all British producers, Rank is the one who has been in the closest contact with Universal-International, is satisfied with future Yank b.o. potentialities of his pic. Zukor hotly charged that "influences" seeking to stress with Parliament that American film industry is drawing heavy of coin from England, had their own axe to grind. Moreover, film dean said, "What we get is small change compared to the money that England gets from us for broadcasts and other merchandise it sells."

"These 'connivers,'" according to Zukor, were peeved because the United States movie industry had fallen for their "wildest schemes." As a matter of fact, film dean concluded, Hollywood was the place where pix are made with the foreign market specifically in mind. Majority of our films are aimed for local consumption, primarily. "What right then, have they to expect the world market to explode? Only when producers abroad find their budgets exceeded, do they start getting in touch with us," Zukor said, as his parting shot.

Extras Retroactive Coin Hits \$1,000,000

Hollywood, Dec. 23

Screen extras will receive retroactive pay checks totaling approximately \$1,000,000 shortly after Jan. 1. The checks, issued by the major studios, range as high as \$10,000 in some cases. Retroactive pay from indie producers is expected to come in about three weeks. They have been delayed by bookkeeping problems.

FOREIGNERS IN THEATRE

Reputed cost of close to \$4,000,000 for J. Arthur Rank's filmized, "London Town," set for early Underline release in the U. S. under the title, "My Heart Goes Crazy," highlights again the weakness of British production techniques and the need for strong overseas selling to make British pic profitable. According to majority trade opinion in New York and Hollywood, hampered by an inadequacy of equipment and with shooting schedules running, on the average, 25-30% longer than in Hollywood, negative costs are at the point of equaling the net on Hollywood product in the same bracket. Consequently, with a domestic market hardly exceeding one-third that available to Yank producers, pressure for overseas sales on the climb.

While American distributors view the foreign market as their main profit, British are regarding it with much greater anxiety since they cannot come close to even on cost. In fact, they are suffering a heavy chunk of coin outside the UK. Increased awareness that the U. S. is a life or death to the British film industry is considered by Yank trade circles as the answer to the mounting insistence that U. S. theatres throw open their screens to Anglo

Pointed out is the fact that the days of cheap British films are over. Even as modest a film as "Brief Encounter" is cited as an example since the pic cost nearly \$1,000,000 to produce. "Casablanca" to Heaven, with a net of \$5,000,000, is an example of how costly a British film can be. "Brief Encounter" to Heaven, with a net of \$5,000,000, is an example of how costly a British film can be. Rank, is figured to have run into expenses equivalent to a top budget American picture.

Need That Export Income

British dependence on the foreign market is pointed up by b.o. performance of the U. S. picture with a little health. "Wicked Lady," all-time grogger with the possible exception of "Casablanca," failed to make \$75,000 in England—but that was the theatre's take, not that of the distrib. Film, in short, is a failure on the outside.

(Continued on page 22)

Rose Sues Mason For \$1,760,000, Avers Pact Breach

David E. Rose, former managing director for Paramount in England, filed a breach-of-contract suit against James Mason in British film star, demanding \$1,760,000. Rose declares Mason failed to live up to contract for a picture exclusive services, and asks an injunction restraining him from working for other studios in the U. S. Mason's attorney, Sam Sagon, denies the existence of a contract between the two. He declares that he wrote a letter last June stating that he was prepared to join Rose in a picture in California but that he never signed an implementing agreement. Rose, he says, is trying to force an oral contract out of correspondence.

Blumberg's Banknote

The Nate Blumberg daughter, Doris Jean (Dodo), marries Stanley Meyer, son of Freddie Meyer, California theatre man, and himself operator of a number of Fox-West Coast theatres. The wedding, Jan. 14, at the Blumberg home in Van Nuys, Cal. Which reminded the Universal execs of the 25th birthday party ago he was at his prospective son-in-law's confirmation, in London, led to quote Blumberg.

"If anybody had wanted to be a millionaire, it would be my time that baby Stanley would one day marry my daughter I dreamt of him not to mention 15 awards were made at banquet at the Hotel Biltmore, etc.

Metro's Rodgers Concedes Product Shortage But Blames Dualers in Part

Claude Binyon

humorously treats with a Hollywood

"Idea Man"

an editorial feature
in the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

VARIETY

M-G's Dual Tests Will Determine Rental Terms

Teasing off a new sales policy, Metro will provide each picture herewith with a test engagement in one key city and one small town in each exchange area before deciding what rental to charge. Idea behind the new move is that one picture might do excellent business in one key city and one small town, but fail flat in other sections. Test runs will make certain that one territory is not controlled over another, with each picture's allocation in each territory to be determined on what it does in the tests.

Idea was first broached at the Metro sales meeting in Chicago several months ago, and was finalized this week by William F. Rodgers, Metro vicepres over sales. Information on what each picture does in the test runs will be passed to the field men to the homeoffice, where it will be collated and then reissued again to the field staff. District and branch managers will then decide where to allocate the picture, in line with Rodgers' belief that local managers know their own territory better than does the homeoffice. The control over film rentals should be decentralized to them.

A Wallace Berry picture, it was pointed out, might do 200% of average business in some territories but only 50-75% in others. Such a picture, therefore, would be sold at higher terms in the favorable areas. Exhibit, of course, gets a break on the deal by not being forced to book a picture at top prices when it's known fairly well in advance that the picture will not gross enough in its theatre to merit the terms. On the other hand, will benefit in the long run by getting out terms on some pictures in certain territories that it has in the past never been able to get out all down the line, even for Metro's reprints and imitations.

Oscars Move to Shrine And Because of Crowds

Hollywood, Dec. 23

Some 3,500 "outsiders" will be permitted to witness the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences annual award presentations March 13, when site of the Oscar banquet moves to the Shrine Auditorium. The 3,200 members of the recently enlarged Academy will have reserved seats for the ceremony, with balance of house being available to public but no price for latter seats set yet.

Because of increase in Academy membership from 1,000 to 1,700 during the past year, the move to a larger house was necessitated. Last four presentations have been made at Grauman's Chinese and previous 15 awards were made at banquet at the Hotel Biltmore, etc.

Conceding that there's a product shortage, Metro execs blame the houses and nabes. Metro sales chief William F. Rodgers intimated last week that the shortage of duals had probably brought the condition on themselves by not playing all the product available to them. In addition, Rodgers said, the policy of making and small town tickets in booking duals is rapidly turning over necessary to get the picture out of the picture a week, which would obviously result in a shortage of product.

Speaking at an industry press luncheon, Rodgers declared it would be impossible for the studios, under present conditions of high production costs, to turn out enough features to meet the demands of exhibs in the sticks. Best solution for them, he said, would be to play pictures longer. Citing Metro's plans of cutting down production from 31 pictures this year to 24 in 1947, he said the number of pictures released would be reduced to 24. He said the market can absorb them. There's a definite trend towards reverting from a dual policy to a single picture policy. Loew's theatres outside New York, he said, intimating such a move might help their business.

Questioned about Metro's reprints, Rodgers declared he was not responsible for the shortage of product, but because there's a big audience for such pictures. He said that the shortage of product, but because there's a big audience for such pictures. He said that the shortage of product, but because there's a big audience for such pictures.

Refusing charges of exhibs that Metro is holding back product on its reissues by asking top prices on them, Rodgers declared that Metro on "Heaven" so is not "Heaven" as a result of the picture now. Re-chalked "Heaven" from "Heaven" which, he said, was a "Heaven" picture.

Even in some situations, is proof that Metro was correct in thinking such a move would do well if given the right handling.

Refusing to make a definite prediction on the future of the picture, Rodgers declared that there's a very bright future for those who have sound vision to prepare for it.

TRANS-LUX'S MEX HOUSE LIST OF LATINO CIRCUIT

Looking upon Latin-America as a lucrative field for theatre expansion, Trans-Lux circuit will launch its first house playing feature pictures in Mexico City shortly after the first of the year as a Latino trial balloon. The move is being financed by a \$50,000 pack, from a two-week stay in the Mex capital, accompanied by a large staff of the theatre from New York. Elson stated the company is considering further outlets south-of-the-border at these points, pending a wait-and-see attitude on how things work after before making further moves.

New house, a 950-seat, is located in the \$400,000 Prado hotel, in the heart of the Mexican capital. Hostelry, owned and built by the American, is expected to draw class tourist patronage, hence the theatre anticipated at these points. The government, Trans-Lux expects to pursue a first-run policy culled from the best picture of the year from the government, Trans-Lux expects to pursue a first-run policy culled from the best picture of the year from the government, Trans-Lux expects to pursue a first-run policy culled from the best picture of the year from the government.

Keep your eye on...



WE at U-I do not intend to suggest there is any great magic in what we are doing, but we want you to watch the fast progress we are making.

When you stop to consider that in the past few months Universal-International's customers have had such smashes as "The Killers" and "Canyon Passage" and when you realize that currently they have "Dark Mirror," "Magnificent Doll," "Temptation," "Wicked Lady" and "Notorious Gentleman," you have to admit things are really looking up.

Just around the corner are "Swell Guy," "Smash-Up," "I'll Be Yours," "Stairway To Heaven," and of course, we know you are waiting just as anxiously as we are for "THE EGG AND I." In fact, in knowing circles everyone is saying, "U-I has 'The Egg and I'." What more could anyone have?

Philly Judge Awards \$750

In Trust Suit Vs. WB, Other Majors

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—Triple damages of \$750,000 were awarded today by Federal Judge William H. Kirkpatrick, Thursday (19) against Warner Bros., two affiliates and other producing and distributing companies. At the same time it decreed that Goldman's attorneys could for \$600,000 in additional damages (trebled) at damages at damages sustained at Goldman's expense since the time the suit was filed. The original action covered the period from the time Goldman leased the house until the suit was started in Federal Court in December, 1945. The new suit covers the period since that time.

The judgment in Thursday's decree resulted from the suit filed by Goldman against the major studios and Warner Bros. more than four years ago against Warners and other major picture companies for alleged refusal to supply him with first-run pictures at the Erlanger, Karlton and Keith theatres, operated by Goldman. Goldman charged the respondents had monopolized showing of first-run houses operated by Warner Bros. and prevented him from obtaining the features at the same time as the other theatres.

Goldman asked triple damages of \$1,500,000. The \$750,000 award covered his losses at the Erlanger, in the case of the Keith and Karlton houses, Goldman sought no money award but a judgment of triple damages. He also sought triple damages for the monopolistic practices of Warner Bros.

Judge Fitzpatrick granted Goldman's permanent injunction restraining Warners from continuing the alleged monopoly, and directed that the Goldman Theatre be allowed to bid for first-run pictures at Keith's and the Karlton that Warners has.

Licence Commissioner

Pressing Appeal to K.O. 'Outlaw' in N.Y. City

Whipped in his fight before the New York State Education Dept. to extract a statewide ban on "The Outlaw," New York's license Commissioner Benjamin Fielding declared his intention to press an immediate appeal to the board of Regents. Meanwhile, he will press legal force moved ahead with the filing of an appeal by producer Howard Hughes to get an early trial of his suit to restrain city authorities from interfering with his showing.

Attempt by Fielding to erase the pic's sale because of alleged obscenity in its advertising, founded on a ruling of Dr. W. C. Sullivan, acting director of the division, that the pic would not introduce evidence of obscenity placed outside the state. Bowen explained that jurisdiction of the case was confined to its own borders and that, as such, as photos of California billboards had been placed on obscenity charges. Ads in New York, it was said, would pass the bounds of decency.

Decision did not consider either the nature of the film or the standards of extra-state ads. Board of Regents, on appeal, will decide the matter. However, Fielding's ruling is up to smut but the novel direction of what effect badly outside the state has on legality of a seal confined to the state itself.

Stoltz Upped at PRC

Arnold Stoltz, PRC's director of sales and exploitation and publicity, has been promoted to post of special national sales representative. Ad-pub spot will be held by Harold Danon, formerly of Paramount's distribution dept. Main duties of Stoltz will be to promote sale of new series of pic's which company is producing shortly.

Stoltz went to PRC from Eastern publicity manager in February, 1945 from United Artists, where he served as exploitation head.

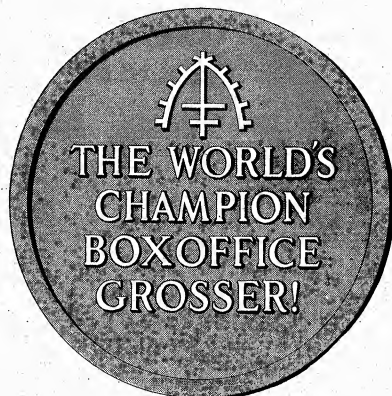
'Crying Room'

Regina, Sask., Dec. 23.—Newspaper columnist, who is active in Saskatchewan is the first in Saskatchewan to boast a "crying room." The columnist, who is Regina's troublemaker, can see the show from a room filled with special optical glass. House is owned by Broadway Theatres, Ltd.

BERGER SUES MAJORS FOR \$1,350,000

Minneapolis, Dec. 23.—Charging anti-trust law violation, the Duluth Theatre Co. has filed damage suits in Federal court for \$1,350,000, plus fees and cost, against eight major distributors and the Minnesota Amus. Co. (Paramount Theatre circuit).

Distributor defendants are Paramount, Columbia, Metro, RKO, 20th-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warner, as well as independent exhibitors showing the pictures in combination and conspiracy of the defendant corporations "concretely 3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1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223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230-2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240-2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250-2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260-2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270-2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280-2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290-2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300-2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310-2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320-2321-2322-2323-2324-2325-2326-2327-2328-2329-2330-2331-2332-2333-2334-2335-2336-2337-2338-2339-2340-2341-2342-2343-2344-



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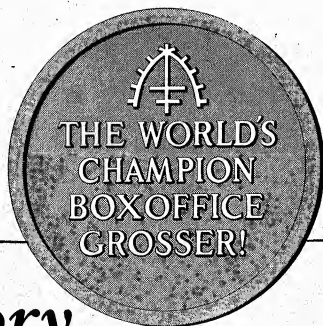
The Razor

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Chinese—Loew's State—Uptown—L
Lake in CHICAGO ● Fox in PHIL
Wisconsin in MILWAUKEE ● Upt
CITY ● Missouri in ST. LOUIS ●
BALTIMORE ● Orpheum—Orie
in OMAHA ● Warfield in SAN
STOCKTON ● Apollo in ATL
in SALT LAKE CITY ● Gill
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DAYTON ● Watson in SALINA

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RISTMAS DAY RED THEATRES!

oyola in LOS ANGELES • State
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wn—Esquire—Fairway in KANSAS
Allen in CLEVELAND • New in
tal in PORTLAND • Paramount
FRANCISCO • California in
ANTIC CITY • Uptown—Rialto
oz—Kickapoo in SPRINGFIELD
A • Fox in HUTCHINSON
ate in SPOKANE • Colonial in
• Midwest in OKLAHOMA CITY

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20th
CENTURY-FOX

JOAN CRAWFORD

WINNER
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1945
ACADEMY
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'MILDRED
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MAKING
ROLE!



"Love me now," she said, "hate me later"... and then all the warmth of their nearness engulfed these two who met and kissed and never should have met again!

JOHN GARFIELD

"Humoresque"

Screen Play by Clifford
O'Brien and Zachary Gold
Based on a Story by Fenella Hunt
Music Conducted by Franz Waxman

WITH OSCAR LEVANT

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A proud holiday at Warners' HOLLYWOOD Now Playing

WARNER GREATNESS GOING INTO A GREAT NEW YEAR



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AND IN LOS ANGELES AT THE
HOLLYWOOD, WILTERN AND DOWNTOWN

Majors Map New Theatre-Building Plan in Scramble for Foreign Showcases

Scramble for foreign showcases by the major, one of the chief postwar developments widely predicted, is well under way with the strength of major film product being used as a handy weapon in the struggle. War-era laying out heavy coin on foreign investments and the resulting exposure to unpredictable governmental shifts, majors have worked out a new technique of inducing local capital to build a theatre and turn it over to the Yank distributor on a long-term lease.

Practice was worked recently by Paramount and 20th-Fox in a combo operation in Lima, Peru. Understood also that Universal, now sharpening its knife to carve into overseas theatre operations, has lined several deals on the same basis. Spread of the technique to other foreign depts. is predicted by execs who see it as the answer to broadening theatre expansion without incurring cash outlays which could put a sizable dent in company exchequers.

Under the plan, local operators are approached by reps for the majors with an offer of exclusive first-run on a lot for a period running from 10-20 years, providing the exhibit puts up a modern showcase in accordance with some specifically stated conditions with the offer of top Hollywood pix, exhibits have been able to secure financing from local banks. "I don't ordinarily consider the deal," said "Pat between local exhib and theatre manager, but we're looking for a new house to the major for opera-

Havana Dress Rehearsal

Havana, Dec. 17. Theatre building operations here are viewed film circles as a dress rehearsal of what may happen in the leading foreign capitals in the near future. Four major U. S. companies, which previously plied their wiles through local exhibs, are planning construction of first-run U. S. showcases. Paramount, which recently opened the Cuban Circuit, is building a new deluxe for the district. Warner Bros. is also putting up a theatre, now nearing completion. Both Metro and 20th-Fox have acquired property and plans to greenlight building operations within the near future.

tion on a lease. Exhbl, however, is guaranteed minimum rental plus percentage of grosses on pix. Assurance in black-and-white that house has first call on all company's films for local, secures profits of theatre, making it a prompt investment for both exhib and banks.

China

Majors continue to move in other ways in an accelerated pace. China, heretofore untouched by the majors, has finally been broken into by Metro with that company recently purchasing a piece of unimproved realty in Shanghai. Metro, which has been in Latin American expansion by acquiring the second run Teasquillo, will increase in Shanghai. Columbia Company will also take over operation of another first-run theatre in Colombia, March 1, 1947.

Joseph M. Schenck, 20th-Fox exec, has been dickered for Mexico with that company recently opening on a tour south of the border. Company has also closed for a number of houses in Australia, where the execs have swung the world circuits recently in surveys leading up to the season's first showings. Metro, Phil Reisman, RKO's foreign chief, who's oiled both Mexico and the Andes, George Kellgren, who's man's counterpart for Paramount, returned this week from Europe; and Donald O'Connor, who's been who made the Latin-American swing, and Al Duff, said foreign head of Universal, back from six weeks in Europe and North Africa.

Infated costs for both properties have been a factor in the expansion by returning foreign heads. As a result, new trend is to combine theatre and both sides with other investments in building plans in European countries, it is said. By creating in the structure a theatre with a flock of arcade stores and apartments, this will insure sufficiently profitable return to meet the heavy cash investment now required, execs say. Consequently, European theatre circles are both sides with their blueprints in that direction.

Maxime de Beix
(Variety's Paris Mags)
writes

"American Film Distributors Find Innumerable Difficulties of Psychological and Material Nature in France"

on editorial feature of the forthcoming
'41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY
(Out Seas)

Auto Drive-Ins For Down Under

Sydney, Dec. 19. Canadian ex-showman Tom Lancaster planned here with two companions and plans to form a company to operate auto drive-in theatres and are looking for local capital. If plans materialize, the result in Sydney's first auto setup.

Local showmen figure the Canada will be the going thing in getting under things since the Government has an ironbound taboo on new construction of any type of entertainment until the housing shortage is eased. Long before the war a move was made to introduce the drive-in theatre in Australia, with no result.

Now with exhibs battling for patrons, inasmuch as the boxoffice bonanza days are over, it looks as though Lancaster and his pals will find red tape and taxation a tough hurdle.

Canceled Contracts By

New French Film Chief Hits U.S., Paris Distributors

Poor administration of the government - controlled theatre chain in France, it includes some of the Sirkitz theatre ex-books 32 houses, six of which are Paris first-run and most of the balance provincial key.

Philippe Acoloun, recently appointed general manager, was charged that he had not asked many drastic to cancel or postpone contracts with exhibs. A previous management, Warner Bros. is the American distributor to suffer most. Acoloun very frankly acknowledged that he has to avail himself of every available loophole he finds in contract to get out of screen quota law. 45 for pictures that could not be delivered until 1946, would thus be postponed.

Acoloun, who finds his books jammed by contracts for over 300 pictures, has ordered his staff to check, and when denouncing the reckless buying orgy of the previous management, he said many of these were in Fresnes penitentiary for less than that."

Mex. Banks Cut Down On Film Trade Credit

Mexico City, Dec. 17. Pix rate is getting less tight now, but balance sheets of Nov. 1946. Trade's own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, set its loan credits and discounts to 17,245,000 pesos (\$4,311,477), a drop of nearly 4,000,000 pesos in a month. The accommodations by the Banco de la Industria Filmica, S. A. prez of the industry, fell to 10,000,000 pesos, only amounting to 238,430,68 pesos (\$75,000).

FOREIGN REISSUES

New outfit to handle overseas sales and distribution of reissues has been formed by Miles Shorover with Henry Kahn and the Motion Picture Export Assn., as trustee and general manager.

Blum Govt. Bans Cabinet Press, Radio Meetings

Paris, Dec. 23. New Leon Blum government has banished the information press from the cabinet and has forbidden ministers to broadcast or hold press conferences.

Blum looked on as being in danger of a policy to hold official interference in pictures and radio to a minimum, as well as to cut down on governmental subsidies to film production and other amusements.

More EXFA Moves Cued by Maas Deal

With the Motion Picture Export Assn. winning control of distribution away from the U. S. Army in Austria starting Jan. 1, major film company foreign toppers now hope to eliminate the military distribution setup in other European countries still under Allied occupation. They are looking at the possibility of a line with the possible exception of that part of the country still controlled by the Germans.

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New Coward Overture Lacks Crix Kudos But Raves for Mary Martin

London, Dec. 22. Noel Coward's new opera, "Piccadilly 1860," which opened at the Adelphi, Dec. 19, appears likely to have a long run.

The opera, which is a pastiche of the popularity of the author and the theatre, but looks unlikely for a long run.

The musical, which shows up more like a "Desert Song" than the usual Noel Coward piece, represents a triumph for Mary Martin in the female lead, as the European actress looking rest and a quiet life in Samoa. She was heartily received and forced into a certain speech after Coward's great approval.

This lavishly-mounted, expensive-dressed production is a conventional love story with a British lead and a "Bittersweet." First-night audience went for the show, however.

Coward showed a particularly interest, with people waiting in line for hours for seats, since it was a Coward present and reopening of London's oldest house after being ENSA headquarters during the war.

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'ANTHONY,' 'PETER PAN' NEW LONDON HITS

London, Dec. 23. In pre-holiday program "Anthony and Cleopatra" was unveiled at the Piccadilly Friday (20) starring George Tyrer and Edith Evans. It was the season's first showings. debut. Show was acclaimed as magnificent.

Casino opening same evening at the Casino was "Mother Goose," done in pantomime. Nat Mills was well liked by the lead. The show off was Bertram Mills circus which reopened at the Olympia after being closed for several weeks. House is sold out for weeks.

Annual revival of Sir James Barrie's "Peter Pan" is produced by Hyton and Daniel Sir James Barrie, opened last week and was well liked by the press and public as smash.

Edwige Fenech in the starring role took 16 curtain calls.

Coteau 'Eagle' Soars

Paris, Dec. 23. Herbert's production of Jean Cocteau's "Double-Headed Eagle" opened here last week and was well liked by the press and public as smash.

French vaudeville Field Has Faced Outlook—And No Place for a Yank

Paris, Dec. 17. French vaude field won't offer much inducement to American acts for some time. Vaudeville is fewer than before, with theatres mostly reverting to straight picture policy. Salaries are reducing to American standards. The Exchange Company makes it practically impossible for some American players who take home part of their earnings by transferring them in dollars. The new audience is not interested.

Harry Regensberg (Chief of Variety's London Bureau) writes

"London Legit Producers Well Gelled on Financing War Pictures—Formerly No Money Played on Important Factor"

on editorial feature of the forthcoming
'41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

China Film Biz's Marked Upbeat

With most Hollywood studios mourning with the high cost of production, and drastically reducing their output, Shaw Bros. Hongkong film producers, are turning out two new pictures each week on a single sound base, according to Amerigo Benefico, head of Variety Film Distributors in the Shaw Bros. Field associate. Three of the films were recently shipped to the U. S.

Pointing their product at two markets, the Shaw Bros. market is chiefly aimed at the Mandarin and Cantonese groups. Formerly, the Chinese film industry, which constituted the carriage trade, while the Cantonese, also financially not as well as to East grosses. Mandarins, said Benefico, when seeking film fare, offer a print from an exhib or distributor for screening at home, regardless of cost, rather than mingle with the hot pot of a film in a theatre.

Analyzing the invasion of Loew's International, Paramount and other majors into the Far East exhibition field, Benefico said not only would a relatively untapped barrel of patronage be opened but a spirit of competition would be instilled in moribund Chinese exhibs. Benefico is well acquainted with the Chinese theatre situation, inasmuch as the Shaws also operate seven Hongkong film houses.

Since the Chinese Government froze 85% of the majors rental coin in 1945, runaway inflation there has forced American companies to protect their capital by investing their idle coin in a safe, non-amusement real estate. Benefico pointed out. Upon opening of new modern film theatres in Shanghai and elsewhere, "native exhibs will start to think," he said, "when their patrons start drifting away to a theatre which can offer them more comfort along with entertainment."

Current London Shows

London, Dec. 23.

"And No Birds Sing," Aldwych.
"Anthony and Cleopatra," Piccadilly.

"Bertram Mills Circus," Olympia.

"Between Ourselves," Playhouse.

"Clutterbuck," Wyndham.

"Dante," Garrick.

"Fifty-Five," Strand.

"Fools Rush In," Fortune.

"Grace of God," St. James.

"Hush," Shaftesbury.

"Gaiety Girl," Criterion.

"Here Comes the Brides," Saville.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Knowing It," Palladium.

"Honeycomb," York's.

"Lady Frederick," Savoy.

"Let's Face It," Gaiety.

"Mother Goose," Gaiety.

"Night and Laughter," Coliseum.

"On the Beach," Winter Garden.

"Our Betters," Playhouse.

"Peculiarly Hayride," Hipp.

"Peter Pan," Shaftesbury.

"Shogun," Shaftesbury.

"Sly Corner," St. Martin's.

"Song of Norway," Palace.

"Sweet and Lowly," Ambassadors.

"The Glean," Globe.

"The Glean," Phoenix.

"Widener's Man," Haymarket.

"Window Boy," Lyric.

"Woman's View," Whitehall.

French vaude field won't offer much inducement to American acts for some time. Vaudeville is fewer than before, with theatres mostly reverting to straight picture policy. Salaries are reducing to American standards. The Exchange Company makes it practically impossible for some American players who take home part of their earnings by transferring them in dollars. The new audience is not interested.

Bernard Hilda made a success of the Club des Champs Elysees through smart location and talent tieup with the Theatre des Champs Elysees. Pops and Louis found success in the Club des Champs Elysees. Pops and Louis found success in the Club des Champs Elysees. Pops and Louis found success in the Club des Champs Elysees.

The spending race is also over. French North Africa is a year before Continental France, experienced it earlier. Black market did not exist. American acts on other channels. Even restaurants feel the pinch. Niteries, of course, are not. American acts are offering possibilities, and performers good there might use it to play Paris on the way. Otherwise, there is nothing in it.

Jean Pierre Guerlin's trend on the Champs Elysees is staging a strong fight against American acts. He says Sanderlin's Tabarin in the Montmartre section. They are the same old places. Others are more intimate.

Club des Champs Elysees leads the field, with Benard's new recent Camp Dup d'Or just off the Champs Elysees has taken the place of good location, or a floor show. Spot features Vlasti Krikava gypsy orchestra of 17, which includes 15 chibbers.

Boites Limp Along

Club des Champs on Rue Montmartre, was temporarily on the map due to the Edith Piaf. The Club des Champs, Carroll, near the Champs Elysees, with the local Alcazar ball, still exists, but its Montmartre location is not the best of the best, with night life now centering on the Champs Elysees. Most boites limp along, many are sure to close. The field is practically restricted to French entertainers. Most popular is Georges Ulmer. Litter is a Dane, not unknown in Denmark.

French entertainers are Emile Audin and Felix Marouani, practically the only ones to remain international minded through a tieup with William Morris for America and Foster for England. Other agencies are French, like Remy Tavel, and also Daniel Marouani, who is another of Felix, whose Riviera agency has a clinch on the bookings in the south. Agency clients are few, but are doing what 10 percenting they can get.

Nebezans's 'Mayerling' Remake Rights Tangle

London, Dec. 10.

Illustrating how carefully remake rights here have to be investigated, S. Nebezans, who has been in films since 1944 bought "Mayerling" for a Hollywood remake from Quaker Film, Inc. of Philadelphia.

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Picture was produced here by Nebezans, which was released in Mexico City up to Dec. 15, with four others scheduled for screenings before the end of 1946. There are three releases in 1947.

But of the 1946 releases, only 10 were good b.o.

MEX. 78 PIX FOR '46

Mexico City, Dec. 15. Seventy four Mexican pix were released in Mexico City up to Dec. 15, with four others scheduled for screenings before the end of 1946. There are three releases in 1947.

But of the 1946 releases, only 10 were good b.o.



wishes you

A Merry Christmas
and
BLUE SKIES*
for 1947

*(And "Cross My Heart," and "The Perfect Marriage," and "California," and "Ladies' Man," "Easy Come, Easy Go," "Suddenly It's Spring," "My Favorite Brunette" and "The Imperfect Lady"!)

WHITE XMAS!



BREAKS ALL-TIME RECORD AT LOS ANGELES OPENING! WATCH CAPITOL, N. Y. AND ALL HOLIDAY OPENINGS

Claudette Colbert · Walter Pidgeon · June Allyson



HOLIDAY HOWLS COMING!

Red Skelton · Marilyn Maxwell



BIGGEST M-G-M BIZ IN HISTORY OF RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. WATCH NATIONWIDE HOLIDAY DATES!

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VAN JOHNSON · JUDY GARLAND
FRANK SINATRA · JUNE ALLYSON
ROBERT WALKER · VAN HEFLIN
KATHRYN GRAYSON · DINAH SHORE
with Lucille Bremer · Lena Horne · Angela
Lansbury · Tony Martin · Virginia O'Brien



PRIZE PICTURE OF THE YEAR OPENING XMAS DAY, CARTHAY CIRCLE, L. A. TWICE DAILY. ALL SEATS RESERVED
Gregory Peck · Jane Wyman · Claude Jarman, Jr.



Price-Conscious Picture Patrons Public Cautions Exhibits on B. T. Tins

Sentiment that admission scales are at their absolute peak and any rise in upward thrust may bring the house down around their ears, the psychology has been sharpened by a drastic shrinkage of the wartime savings circulation and an eyeing of the mercantile market in which luxury items such as Christmas gifts have drawn a precipitous downward plunge. Feeling has been far from dissipated by the Christmas many parts of the country and particularly bad on the Coast.

Deterioration to hold selling at its current level and forestall further spiraling is behind a move by Richmond exhibitors, who under very tight pocket tax losses rather than absorb them in an admission scale rise. Exhibits have been made by local exhibitors who have begun adding a losing fight against a council proposal to add 10¢ to the ticket to the current 20¢. Federal nickel on admission.

A scale would mean a 30% overall tax and an increase of 65¢ of the present prices, now scaled to 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, 25¢, 30¢, 35¢, 40¢, 45¢, 50¢, 55¢, 60¢, 65¢, 70¢, 75¢, 80¢, 85¢, 90¢, 95¢, 1.00, 1.05, 1.10, 1.15, 1.20, 1.25, 1.30, 1.35, 1.40, 1.45, 1.50, 1.55, 1.60, 1.65, 1.70, 1.75, 1.80, 1.85, 1.90, 1.95, 2.00, 2.05, 2.10, 2.15, 2.20, 2.25, 2.30, 2.35, 2.40, 2.45, 2.50, 2.55, 2.60, 2.65, 2.70, 2.75, 2.80, 2.85, 2.90, 2.95, 3.00, 3.05, 3.10, 3.15, 3.20, 3.25, 3.30, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 3.60, 3.65, 3.70, 3.75, 3.80, 3.85, 3.90, 3.95, 4.00, 4.05, 4.10, 4.15, 4.20, 4.25, 4.30, 4.35, 4.40, 4.45, 4.50, 4.55, 4.60, 4.65, 4.70, 4.75, 4.80, 4.85, 4.90, 4.95, 5.00, 5.05, 5.10, 5.15, 5.20, 5.25, 5.30, 5.35, 5.40, 5.45, 5.50, 5.55, 5.60, 5.65, 5.70, 5.75, 5.80, 5.85, 5.90, 5.95, 6.00, 6.05, 6.10, 6.15, 6.20, 6.25, 6.30, 6.35, 6.40, 6.45, 6.50, 6.55, 6.60, 6.65, 6.70, 6.75, 6.80, 6.85, 6.90, 6.95, 7.00, 7.05, 7.10, 7.15, 7.20, 7.25, 7.30, 7.35, 7.40, 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 7.60, 7.65, 7.70, 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*We can make this flat statement
based on performance:*

**ONLY A HANDFUL OF PICTURES
IN THE HISTORY OF THE
INDUSTRY HAVE HAD A SUCCESS
COMPARABLE WITH THAT OF
"THE JOLSON STORY"**

A Columbia Picture in Technicolor

Opening Christmas,
New Year's Eve or New Year's Day

Mayfair, Asbury Park • Rialto, Atlanta • Hippodrome, Baltimore • Apollo, Chicago • Durfee, Fall River
Palace, Huntington, W. Va. • Loew's, Jersey City • Kingston, Kingston, N. Y. • Capitol, Lincoln, Town
and Cameo, Miami • Community, Morristown, N. J. • Loew's State, Newark, N. J. • New Arcade,
Newark, Ohio • State, New Bedford • Opera House, New Brunswick • Home and Knob Hill, Oklahoma
City • Hiehle, Parkersburg, W. Va. • Majestic, Perth Amboy • Union Square, Pittsfield, Mass. • Strand,
Portland, Me. • Bijou, Springfield, Mass. • Palace, Stamford • Newport and Colley, Norfolk, Va.
Commodore, Portsmouth, Va. • Senate, Springfield, Ill. • and a Gala New Year's Eve showing
in 23 key theatres of the Interstate Circuit with regular run later . . . and the list growing hourly!



Minn. Amus., Berger, Manns Bid For 2 Steffes Houses; Other Xchange News

Minneapolis. Minnesota Amus. Co. (Parsons), Bennie Berger and Ted Manns, the two largest independent circuit owners, are reported to be bidding for two important properties of the late W. A. Steffes. They are the six-acre Waterbury, now booked by the Minnesota Amus. and the Alvin, former legitimate roadshow and dramatic stock house currently playing burlesque. The estate, in process of liquidation, has been purchased by a third Steffes' loan trustee, the Bjork, 1,500-seat film house, on Harry Drive, is present operator for \$60,000. All three are in Minneapolis.

Liquidation of holdings is the result of the widow's decision to relinquish her inheritance under the will and late, instead, her one-third share's dowry, as provided by law. The World and Alvin are valued in excess of \$300,000 each.

Joe Minsky to Eagle-Lion Philadelphia. Joseph Minsky, former special national sales rep. for International Sales Corp. has been named sales manager for Eagle-Lion films to be in charge of Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh territories.

Joe Resnick, who started in the picture biz in 1906 as operator of the old Casino theatre here, retires on Jan. 4, when he relays to his son, Harry Resnick, elected president of Family Club of 20th-Fox exchange.

Harry Abbott reelected president of Local 307, IATSE. Other officers reelected include Abbott, vice-president; Horace Johns, business rep.; Joseph R. Brown, secretary; and William Friedman, treasurer.

Charles Zagrans, RKO branch manager, appointed Ely J. Epstein

as sales manager, assuming a newly-created post. J. J. McPadden takes over the city salesmanship of William Wolfson, Alhambra and Wabash sales territories, and William Adler becomes Willen-Berger salesman.

Cluck and Hudson at Park Ave. Norman E. Cluck named manager of the Park Ave. theatre which Universal takes over from Walter Rode on Christmas Day. John E. Hudson, ex-manager, Park Ave. signals U. operation by promising "Stairway to Heaven." Arthur Rank's job on a roadshow basis, fixed at \$130-\$140. Cluck for past 12 years with U. Theatres. Hudson is switching from the Winter Garden, which U. also operates.

W-B Stage Policy for 2 Houses. W. B. Spertanburg, S. C. City Manager, City Manager Bob Talbot has announced stage policy for Carolina and State. Latter will continue with straight vaudeville. Carolina will house legions, with "Variety of Tunes." W. F. Griffin, until recently U. manager here, returned to Vienna, Ga. where he owns and operates Vienna theatre.

Stockholder Upset by B&K Chicago. Long-delayed organizational switch, caused by death of Jules Ruben more than a year ago, was made last week by Public Group's Stock Theatres, of which Ruben was general manager. New setup puts Henry C. Stockholder, former assistant to Ruben in charge of Northern district of Illinois and Toledo, Ohio. David B. Wallenstein, former district manager of a group of B&K houses in Chicago and Indiana, becomes division manager for central Illinois and Southern Illinois district. Continues supervision of Indiana theatres.

The Gimmick?

Galle tantum over "Five Graves to Cairo" apparently stems from the past play by A. J. Barker at Mouche, champagne at the hotel where the action centers. Mouche, originally from France, intrigues with Field Marshall Rommel, temporarily quartered at the North African hostelry, and several of his staff to win the release of her brother, a Nazi prisoner-of-war.

She carries an inverted torch for the British, when she figures out the French's duplicity. Sensibilities of the French are probably further further by the ch. s. charms by Rommel, who remarks that he does not like women in the morning.

'Cairo' Insult

Continued from page 3

insult to French womanhood and the French in general, by having to involve all American experts.

Par, which had built studios here, has, until now, been a technical expert. The revised attitude seems the outcome of the all-American attitude, the technically expert but personally lacking Par flackery. Choice of the French, rather than the U. S. to ventilate the grudge against Par is explained on grounds that radio here, that the French is immune from retaliation through any advertising buck out.

At the same time, a name thrown by Chicago, for Ray Milland, Michelle Nicot, femme columnist, had an argument with I. Lupton, head of the Public relations here, claiming he interfered with her interviewing the

Selznick's Claims

Continued from page 4

breached his contract by selling picture package deals to RKO said. Statement by Vanguard issued just before the suits were filed said:

"Mr. Selznick has had enough of Pickford and Chaplin's interference in United Artists affairs; that neither of them had contributed anything of an appreciable value to the company for several years; that he had had enough of the damage and annoyance caused by their harassment; that he will have no further dealings with United Artists or with Pickford or the corporate intrustalities or of either of them in relation to the affairs of United Artists except on a legal basis. And he was proceeding rapidly with a re-organizing organization without having to cope with such interference." It was stated that attorneys for the company (Vanguard) immediately filed two actions for damages growing out of the recent controversy between the David O. Selznick production unit, Vanguard Films on the one hand and Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin on the other.

One of those actions was filed against Charles Chaplin, Mary Pickford and the Pickford Corporation for damages of approximately \$5,000,000. The essence of this action will be that they maliciously conspired to deprive the Selznick company of a distribution agreement executed in October, 1942, for selfish purposes of their own which will be revealed.

"The second action seeking damages probably in excess of \$7,000,000 will be against United Artists Corp., of which Vanguard, Chaplin and Pickford are equal and one-third owners. This action will have to do with the distribution contract, and will also claim damages for willful mishandling of Selznick productions, including the sale of weaker product on the strength of Selznick pictures.

The Vanguard statement also says that both Pickford and Chaplin, over a period of two years against the Selznick interests have been strongly resisted by the company (UA) which repeatedly stated the necessity of retaining the high quality and high grossing Selznick product. The management of United Artists repeatedly advised Pickford, Chaplin and their representatives that there was not merit whatsoever in their claims that Selznick had violated their contract by going over to 20th-Fox and RKO stories and scripts which Selznick had developed as provided in the distribution agreement because he did not think them up to his stand-

DOS-UA Duel Starts Law Suits

Continued from page 4

have never asked that the suit be listed for trial because depositions taken from Sir Alexander Korda and Edward C. Rafferty about six months ago knocked the props from under it. Chaplin adherents deny that.

On the interpretation of what is contained in those depositions, as a matter of fact, hinges pretty much the whole case of UA against Selznick. Depositions contained testimony of what was agreed between the parties when Rafferty, as UA proxy, and Korda, then a part-owner of the company, negotiated the contract by which Selznick became a partner.

Right to join and Harrow. According to the Selznicks, the depositions clearly proved that the producer had the right to loan out players, writers and directors—at the industry custom "when they are on salary and their home studio has no immediate use for them. Likewise, they say, Selznick was

which the Chaplin suit is based— are radically different. Selznick admits. In those instances the loan-out and story transfers were more in keeping with industry practice and Selznick's profit-participation, and was a "reasonable" percentage.

One of the points made in Selznick's suit is that Selznick is that the company didn't come up with the \$300,000 it was committed to advance toward production of "The Paradine Case," which is now before the cameras. That grows out of UA's original agreement with the producer by which he was to be advanced \$1,000,000 toward financing of his first four films. He received \$300,000 when he signed the contract and \$250,000 each for "Sinner You," "Spellbound" and "Duel in the Sun." That would leave \$200,000 due toward "Paradine."

Chaplin and Miss Pickford do not plan to protest attendance of the three directors representing Selznick at future meetings of the board—if they choose to attend. Directors are elected for a period of time and theoretically agree regardless of changes in stockholders. If and when Selznick is officially out, the number of directors might be changed. However, in view of Selznick's statement announcing his suit, it appears likely that directors will no longer appear on the UA scene, since he declared he "would have no further dealings with United Artists or Mary Pickford or Charles Chaplin."

Marshall Grant's 1st

Hollywood, Dec. 23.

First picture to be made by Marshall Grant and Associates, new indie producing company will be "Domino Parole," dealing with the gambling racket among the yokels. Also Lustig, of the William Morris estate is negotiating for a release out.

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmex's NEW Prew Trailer Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmex 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill., and receive full details.

WHITE FOX CAPE

Size length, 44 inches, beautiful, value \$14.00. Sacrifice. Wear Chicago.

Mr. L. B. Johnson
1400 Lake Shore Dr. W. 20, Ill.
Delaware 3649

New York Theatres

Doris E. Brown
W. SUMMIT ST. WASHINGTON
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Glory Home!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

PALACE 4th Ave. & 42nd St.
WALT DISNEY'S
SONG OF THE SOUTH
IN TECHNICOLOR
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Judy Garland • Van Johnson
June Allyson • Robert Walker
and MANY OTHER STARS
in Technicolor • An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

Thurs., Dec. 26
ON SCREEN
Katharine Hepburn
Robert Montgomery
Robert Montgomery
EXTRA! See FETTER Film Offers
"Undiscovered"

CAPITOL 14th St. & Broadway
Claudette Colbert
Walter Pidgeon
June Allyson
The Secret Heart

JAMES NASON
MARSHALL
LOCKWOOD
PATRICIA ROC
The Wicked Lady
WINTER GARDEN 47th St. & 5th Ave.
WINTER GARDEN 47th St. & 5th Ave.
WINTER GARDEN 47th St. & 5th Ave.

Dennis MORGAN
Jack CARSON
Joan Paige • Robert Vickers
in Warner Bros. Hit
"The Time, the Place and the Technicolor"
Vaughn MONROE
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
A BIG STAGE REVUE
Broadway at 47th Street STRAND

JOAN CRAWFORD • JOHN GARFIELD
in The New Warner Achievement
"HUMORESQUE"
with OSCAR LEVANT
Directed by Jean Negulesco
J. CARROLL NAMI
Broadway at 47th Street
HOLLYWOOD

Great as drama, lively and lively
as comedy—300
the BEST years
of our lives
ASTOR 45th St. & 4th Ave.
Continued Performances
NOW! I
MY DARLING RIVOLI
Directed by George Cukor
CLEMENTINE
NOW! I
DUEL IN DUAL STANDS
Directed by George Cukor
CLEMENTINE

'Duel' in Dual Stands
Hollywood, Dec. 23.
Vogue theatre on Hollywood Boulevard is to be the second local show for "Duel in the Sun" opening Dec. 31 on a roadshow basis at two-day and reserved seats for an indefinite run.
Egyptian, first house named for the showings, will hold the film only two weeks.

There's only one Lord Tarleton
Within its blackfront of ocean
privacy—40th to 41st Streets—
Swimming Pool • Sun Club • Cabanas.

Lord Tarleton
MIAMI BEACH
Jack Parker, Manager
Reservations Invited • • • Walter Jacobs

"Summertime", Lake Tarleton Club, Pike, New Hampshire

ABC? WHO? - RHDIN'

Storer in Wholesale Switchover Of Fort Industry Stations to CBS?

Detroit, Dec. 23. Return to the CBS fold of WWVA, the George Storer 5,000-watt station, Wheeling after a five-year ABC network identification, is believed to be only the prelude to one of the major affiliation reshufflings in recent years which is expected to involve at least two other Storer (Fort Industry Co.) stations.

Although CBS is being quite much about the subject, from authoritative sources come word that Storer is getting ready to make a wholesale switchover to CBS, pulling both its Atlanta and Miami stations away from their ABC affiliations.

Meanwhile the projected moves are occasioning considerable anxiety on the part of the networks, particularly ABC, which not only takes a beating on the WWVA switchover to CBS, but looks to be on the losing end of the remaining Storer station reassignments.

CBS would consider it a choice plan to top both the 5,000-watt Atlanta station as well as Storer's 10-watt outlet, which is going to 50,000 watts.

What the contributing factors have been in sparking Storer's change of heart about ABC and re-aligning himself with CBS is currently the talk of industry speculation. It's said that Storer became convinced ABC when latter took over the WCAE, Pittsburgh, affiliation, resulting in an overlapping of the ABC network which involves more than 50,000 radio families in the W. Va., Pennsylvania-Ohio coal, iron and steel belt.

WWVA returns to the CBS chain next Friday is. It switched over to ABC in May, 1941.

Y&R Production Setup Revamped

Young & Rubicam has revamped its setup on a number of top shows agency by the agency coincident with the upping last week of Joe Moran to the post of vicepres. Moran had been one of the agency's program managers and, with his promotion, the other changes went into effect.

Hobe Morrison has been made program manager for the Lipton-sponsored "Vox Pop" with Charles Henry given the producer assignment on the show. Latter had been producing the General Electric "House Party" on CBS which GE is giving up. Henry will join the "Vox Pop" troupe in Chicago after its Dec. 31 broadcast, and will tour with the show on its swing for the next few weeks, which will include airings from Denver, Seattle, Monterey and Long Beach.

Ben Grumbine takes over as program manager for the Ginny Simms show for Borden's. Ed Dowdones, chief producer of the revived McGarry and His House show, former Grizzly-Myers sponsored NBC sum-

(Continued on page 32)

ABC Orders 2 Musical Sustainers to Yank New Pops in 'Payola' Probe

ABC network last week ordered the elimination of all popular songs from two of its sustaining programs when officials determined, or suspected, that somewhere along the line the music business' payola evil was rearing its ugly head too high. Exactly what occurred is not too clear, and all concerned are only volubly entering into it, but it seems that its publishers were influencing the selection of pops for the "Fantasy in Melody" and "Ten and Crumple's" shows.

Rather than create an explosion, ABC execs ordered that for an indefinite period the show's producers must use music for which arrangements had been written for past programs, including standards, etc. No new pops can be scheduled.

Louis G. Cowan

discusses

Future of Daytime Radio

an editorial feature

In the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

(Out Soon)

Flock of Shifts In CBS Prod. Dept.; Langham Vamps

CBS production department appears to be going through a drastic upheaval of sorts, sparked by three resignations, including that of Roy Langham, assistant to Davidson Taylor, vicepres and director of programs, and formerly director of network operations. Langham had been with the network for 12 years. At least one of the resignations stems from a clash in personalities within the programming-production department. Other resignations are reported as fairly imminent.

In addition to Langham, whose future plans are still not set, Mrs. Loeb, Richard Sanville and Clint Johnson, network directors, are also checking out. Loeb, who has been "off staff" since folding of "Theatre of Romance," resigns to take over production reins on new Goodyear show on ABC. Sanville, who has been with CBS for five years, has directed a number of Workshop and "Assignment Home" programs, as well as the Victor Jory "Vicks Matinee" show and directed a number of transcription programs on a freelance basis. He planes out to the Coast next Monday (30) to wed D. J. Thompson, of Pasadena, radio and legit actress, and he'll locate permanently on the Coast.

Johnson, who has directed the Sunday afternoon "Yours Sincerely" show on CBS, is leaving in a couple of weeks. He's also going to the Coast. To become an exec of Phoenix productions, new radio package outfit. Meanwhile, Werner Michel, who joined the web about two months ago, steps into Langham's post, and Jack Moeman, assistant CBS director, has been named to director.

Oliver, CBS director-producers on the exit list include Howard Barnes and Joe Gratz.

SUSPECT LATE NIGHT REPEATS

In recent months some stations around the country have been making much of their practice of taking network shows, transmuting them and re-scheduling them in late night segments, on the basis that it not only makes for better programming continuity for the affiliate but that principally it fits into a pattern for "juvie betterment" peculiar to the needs of that community.

It's been particularly applicable in the case of the sponsored youth shows, the majority of which hit the air in the early evening time slots. The civic-bent affiliates, in turn, have been crying "Why expose the youth of our community to these type shows and encourage juvenile delinquency?" with the resultant shifting of the wheel into late nighting segments when the kids are asleep.

The practice, apparently, is beginning to get on the nerves of some networks, sponsors and agencies involved, who claim that the whole deal is a phony and that the client is being taken for a ride. In the contention of the chiefs of the affiliates who like to juggle their time that the "combating of juvenile delinquency" is a mere smoke-screen intended to conceal the real profit motive of the stations involved; that the network shows are purposely relegated to a late-night period so that the affiliate can in the cheap, mid-evening slot to a local sponsor.

Agency-sponsor feeling was crystallized only recently when Duner, Fitzgerald & Sample, which handles the "Elizy Queen" program, yanked it off KMBC, the CBS affiliate in Kansas City and instead bought a transcription show, "Phil Vance," on the rival KCMB outlet. Move, obviously, isn't resting any too well with CBS, which fears similar reversion from other agencies and clients whose shows have been getting the delayed-airing treatment. D&S execs squawked that "Elizy" was being broadcast at a time which, in terms of Kaycee listening habit, is equivalent to 2 a.m. in New York.

KMBC has a half dozen such phony hour of them on Thursday night, slotted into late segments on the station's contention that such technique is a factor in reducing juve delinquency. Other programs similarly affected are "Inner Sanctum" (Broome-Seltzer, Young & Rubicam); "Supper" (Roma Wine, Blum); "Mr. Keen" (Whitehall, D'P); and "Crime Photographer" (Anchor Hocking, Weintraub).

GORDON GRAY'S KOIL EXIT

Gordon Gray, general manager of KOIL since 1944, this week stepped out of control of the Columbia Workshop in February, will first be shown for four weeks in the Sunday afternoon 2-3:30 slot, starting Jan. 5. Carl Belser, CBS director, will produce the series.

Nets Deny Concerted Axing of Actors As AFRA Duel Reprisal; Fall-Off Admitted, Due to General Conditions

Robert Heller
(CBS Producer)

opines on the

"Actuality Broadcast, Slice-of-Life Technique"

an editorial feature

In the

41st Anniversary Number

of

VARIETY

Coming Soon

Nets Eye Reaction As Westinghouse Ups Its Rate 11%

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.

Westinghouse Stations, Inc., which operates six major outlets, has notified advertising agencies that it was upping its card rate by 11% after the first of the year—a first large-scale increase in time charges in recent years.

Just what the reaction will be to the hike may have a bearing on what the major networks may do in considering a similar move in '47. The increase for 1947 would apply to most new advertisers. Westinghouse officials said, with old customers—those already under contract—not liable for the new rates until January, 1948.

Any contracts made between now and Jan. 1 would be under the old rate even if the contract doesn't take effect until after the first of the year.

Price hike was laid to increase in operating costs by Westinghouse spokesmen.

Sunday Showcase For 'Once Upon a Tune' Teeoff

The musically series "Once Upon a Tune" detailed in last week's Variety written and composed by a pair of Canadians, Ray Darby and Morris Surdin, which are scheduled to move into the Columbia Workshop in February, will first be shown for four weeks in the Sunday afternoon 2-3:30 slot, starting Jan. 5. Carl Belser, CBS director, will produce the series.

Network officials in New York deny as absurd the whisper going the rounds among radio actors that there is a concerted campaign by the webs to reduce the total volume of actor employment. One broadcaster put it this way: "No doubt there is a connection between rising costs and fixed overhead and cancellation of costly sustainers, but such cancellations jeopardize the idea of program executives, directors and writers quite as much as actors. In any event the networks would hardly bite off their own noses to spite Henry Jaffe." Jaffe is attorney for AFRA.

Actor going has proceeded on the premise that the American Federation

Call Marks

A New York radio actor with a statistical bent has tried to calculate the shrinkage of sustainer jobs in the past few weeks.

He assured 235 calls per week had been wiped out among NBC, CBS, ABC and Mutual. Net executives deny the charge of sustained competition for remaining calls and the squeeze comes down to the fact that the payroll cost of actors and other non-ideal situations.

A period of industrial peace, now that the John L. Lewis mess is out of the way, might reverse this trend, but, as men, Florida labor union and department stores seem both to be off and a period of deflationary adjustment seems in the air. It's probably natural enough for AFRA members to relate their current and relatively meager salaries to the element of bickering between their leadership and business management, but the situation isn't that simple or direct.

As reported, the fall-off in actor calls in New York has been noticeable at all the webs. CBS' action in cancelling "Joe Penner of Oakville" five-week series of half hours was a blow not only to freelance actors but freelance writers as well.

ABC CUTS 6G GALICCO SHOW; AUTHOR EMECEES

"Story-by-Gallico," half-hour dramatizations of short stories by Phil Gallico that have appeared in leading magazines, have been set by ALS Productions, with audition slotted in first show, "Fibber's Wife," based on a Saveatop yarn, cut by ABC Friday (30). ABC has a 60-day option on the series. Gallico will act as emcee on the series, writing the material he'll use to describe how he came to write each story. Gallico is believed to be of a recognized short story writer appearing as emcee on a program made up of his works. Gallico's previous air appearances have been only in interviews. Stories will be adapted by Sheldon Stark, with Clark Andrews directing.

Show will sell for about \$6,000.

GRIFFIN IN WIP BOWOUT
Philadelphia, Dec. 23. Alexander M. Griffin last week rendered his resignation as network caster for WIP to take a job with the public relations department of the Al Paul Lenton ad agency here.

OUT SOON!

The

41st Anniversary Number

OF

VARIETY

Firms closing shortly

Usual Advertising rates prevail

Special exploitation advantages

Copy and space reservations may be sent to any Variety office

NEW YORK 19	HOLLYWOOD 28	CHICAGO 1	LONDON, W. C. 2
154 W. 46th St.	6311 Yucca St.	360 N. Michigan Ave.	8 St. Martin's Place

Trafalgar Square

Springfield Radio's Ears Pinned Back For News Failure as Press Strikes On

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 23. Given a golden opportunity to distinguish themselves during the past months this city has been without daily newspapers, the local radio stations have missed the news boat by a mile of kilometers.

That the consensus in this community of 160,000 when the strike of four unions against the four daily papers was published by Sherman H. Bowles has resulted in a complete blackout of published news is Sept. 1.

Both WMAZ, the CBS outlet, and WSPR, ABC station, have multiplied their news periods, but the result is two man news casts, but the result coverage has rarely been beyond the level of a local news item and is often below it. Newspapersmen claim that the hiring of the extra men to carry the news in general news commercials into the news programs. One five minute show has three people.

Several factors have contributed to the sad state of affairs. Little recognition of the duty or opportunity that confronted the stations is apparent to the general public. The stations themselves admit that the extra coverage is only a stop gap until the papers resume. A lack of news "know-how" has hampered the efforts of both stations.

WMAZ has done the better job, but hardly one to brag about. Its established bureau, plus the addition of one of the local editors, has made it a head start. The result was that the station always got most of the news, even if the public didn't.

Unversed in writing for radio, styled by commercials and fooled by the reported news. Little knowledge of the city was too little to enable them to pronounce correctly the names of street stores, familiar landmarks and VIPs, the WMAZ bureau learned slowly.

At present, it is the local townhatch job covering municipal affairs, but it is losing friends by failing to give the coverage a touch of news items as obituaries. Its once-overly light treatment all too often leaves the listener asking "who did he say died?" Most flagrant example of bad taste is sandwiching death notices in the middle of basketball and hockey scores.

At WSPR, the station learned to handle obituaries and public relations director Howard Keefe tuned in a news broadcast during the hour that a local man had been killed in a spectacular auto crash. It was apparent that the station was a doctor from the coverage of his training, etc., but nowhere during the two minutes Keefe listened.

(Continued on page 32)

Mpls. Business Group Bids \$25G AVCO For 75% KSTP Control

Minneapolis, Dec. 23. FCC today had to consider for purchase of three-quarters interest in KSTP. A group of city businessmen has offered \$25,000 for 75% of the stock, identical with that made by the late E. Hubbard, president and manager of the station, who owns the remaining 25%.

Hubbard had revealed his purchase would be financed by Aviation Corp. of America, owner of Crosley Broadcasting Corp. and the owner of AVCO to buy the stock for \$1,200,000 after six months and within seven months of FCC approval.

Twin City bidders include David Charles J. Winton, Jr., Alfred D. Lindley, George Crosby, J. O'Shaughnessy, Nathaniel Bangs, Robert E. Albrecht, Arthur Lamp, David Thomas, Jr., Truman Gardner, Thomas Irving, S. Macmillan, George Howard, Charles Rosenberg, Charles C. Cook, Warren E. Burger, Hamlin Brewing Co., Raymond L. Reichenbach, William Johns, Jr., William F. Johns, Sr., Roland J. Farley and John S. Jenkins. Jenkins formerly president and director of KSTP. Johns Sr., former president of WTCN, would be manager of the station and the Hubbard-AVCO bid would have a slight edge in FCC consideration because of the management experience of the combination.

City to Alley

George Mitchell, who has authored the cycle of 22 Sateepart articles dissecting U. S. cities, is now going in for alleys. But it's got nothing to do with his city series.

His latest, "The Alley" issue of Sateepart features an article by Perry analyzing the Alley gang on the Fred Allen show.

Sustainer Reports Called For by FCC

Washington, Dec. 23. General attitude of affiliated stations toward network sustaining fees is to be shown in a breakdown of statistics to be submitted to FCC by the four major nets by Jan. 31.

Following through on a proposal first set forth in the Blue Book last March, FCC last week called on the chains to submit info on which of their affiliates carried or failed to carry network shows during the week Nov. 17-23. The commission wanted to know in which stations when the network sustainer was used on a transcribed, delayed basis, or if the whole or part of the program was carried on the network stations carrying the net show.

FCC said that, in line with its Blue Book announcement last spring, this information will be requested from the majors on a quarterly basis. This is the first time that the FCC has actually requested the reports.

Commission told the nets hereafter it will advise them of the sample of which reports are to be made before the end of each three-month period.

ABC-MIL. DEAL OK, Durr Dissects AGAIN

Washington, Dec. 23. FCC last week took the first step in the transfer of the King-Trendle Broadcasting Co., to the ABC. This was the result of WOOD, Grand Rapids, Mich., to the Liberty Broadcasting Co. for \$850,000.

Deal Commissioner Clifford J. Durr, in line with his original dissent to ABC's purchase of the station and its properties, voted for a hearing on the WOOD sale. ABC had to resell the station because of overlapping coverage with its Chi station, WENR.

President of Liberty is Roy C. Kelley, who heads the American Network and National Advertisers, Inc., a radio sales promotion outfit specializing mostly in religious accounts.

A Scott For Every Kitchen

Alan Scott, emcee of Mutual's "Once Over Lightly" show, becomes manna's little helper three times a week, beginning Jan. 8, with a new show on the net, "Easy Does It," to be sponsored by Conadino's tomato paste.

Deal for the show, made by Mutual's veepee in charge of sales, Jess Barnes, came from E. J. Brown and Agency, Philadelphia, and is the first radio venture of this advertiser.

Scott will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:15-11:45 a.m., offering help to housewives and giving home-making suggestions and hints.

Niles Trammell Details His "Status Quo Defense Vs. the 'Siren Calls of Super-Planners'"

(President of NBC) details his

status quo defense vs. the "Siren Calls of Super-Planners"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number of

VARIETY

News Knowhow ERNEST MITCHELL

KLZ's news staff is composed of news veterans. Ernest Mitchell served 20 years with metropolitan newspapers before coming to KLZ three years ago.

KLZ, Denver.

Axes Hang At Some Webs By Fiscal Thread

A couple of axes are poised at the end of the networks, ready to fall right after the first of the year, with dismissals used to weed year-end financial statements. Tipoff of things to come has been the series of budgetary sessions around the web in the past couple of weeks. There's been slashing right down the line.

Fiscal men at the webs are aware the contemplated dismissals are wise moves, but the firings are said to be urged chiefly by those who are intimately tied in with recent and a soon-to-come labor negotiations.

The year-end reports will be used as the raison d'être for chopping staffs, especially on the program side. The webs are aware the negotiations are up soon with the American Federation of Musicians as well as with Radio Directors Guild.

RDG has negotiations coming up with CBS on behalf of television directors, for which this union recently won certification from the National Labor Relations Board. Same union also has to negotiate new contracts on behalf of associate directors.

Recently "interim" contracts have been signed with the American Federation of Radio Artists. AFRA gave up jurisdiction over the associate directors, leaving to RDG which, like AFRA, is also an AFL union.

Labor union people who are aware of the pending axes, point out the nets will use the dismissal weapon in effort to justify refusal to give the unions coming up in negotiations as much as they ask for.

The networks, however, are going to plead poverty, pointing to their year-end statements as proof that their network earnings (aside from income derived from owned-and-operated stations) don't paint too rosy a picture.

Chi Uses Radio Spots For First Time in Battle Vs. Anti-Negro Prejudice

Chicago, Dec. 23. Probably for the first time an official city group, the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations, is using radio spots in a preventive campaign to keep and avert arguments from spreading in Chicago.

There has been tension in Chicago recently, since a Negro was set trying to get into a new home, was attacked by a mob. Fearing that race riots might develop, the Mayor's commission has been doing what it could to counteract that possibility. As part of its campaign, Martha Glavin, director of the commission, has public information and education, has sent on SOS to the Institute for Democratic Education in New York, asking for IDE's "Keep Faith with America" radio spots.

Twenty of the fifteen minute spots were rushed here by Harold Franklin, program director of the IDE, and are being placed on local stations by Miss Glavin's group since 1941.

Hoop Hop of the Whodunits

In the face of a generally mild seasonal Hooper swell, whodunits, with only a few exceptions, have jumped an average of 13 points over the last ratings released.

Of 29 mystery programs slotted in evening hours, 21 are enjoying a rating rise, and eight of these have jumped better than a point and a half. What has really caused the agency perk-up is the fact that the Hooper book preceding the Dec. 17 piece showed a drop in the Hooper for most of the whodunits, which means a steady upgrade for the past month. Even for the eight programs that dropped off in the current ratings, a quick glance shows that for five of them it's merely a settling back to better-than-normal after previous strong rises.

Significant to add, of course, is the fact that the talent and production costs between the whodunits and their big-budget brothers, for moderately-budgeted shows, the whodunits are still the "rating kings" in the Hooper.

One of the chief budget items marking the cost differences between the two types of programs is in the script department. While the name shows depend upon a floating population of high priced writers, the whodunits pay more than \$200 or \$300 per script. A couple of the mystery programs occasionally dig into the files for old scripts. More obvious discrepancies are in casting, where the big programs do out plenty for name attractions, while the chillers seldom go over AFRA scale.

Leading the pack for gains over the past month are Sam Spade, with an 11.7, and "Inner Sanctum," with a 15.8, both up 2.4 for the period. "Suspense" took a 3.4 jump this last Hooper week, but had a drop preceding report. "The Hound Dog" was up 1.7, and "The Man with All 191," and that's with a drop for both of the last two reports; "Suspense" is second with 17.0.

The overall average for the sponsored mystery segments is a healthy 10.7.

Lloyd Lewis' "Doggone Those Overarrangements Especially With Dogie Ballads"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number of

VARIETY

(Out Soon)

AFRA Keeps Nets On Wage Hot Seat

The American Federation of Radio Artists kept the networks on the hot seat over the weekend as a result of their own publicity campaign in which the chapters in New York, Chicago and Hollywood refused to accept the new contract. The union drew national cartoon and reformed strike authorization.

New York was first to hold its meeting on Tuesday (17) night. At a fully-attended chapter meeting that reaffirmed the meeting held at the City Centre, more than 300 AFRA members refused to approve or reject either the national agreement or the contract for staff members of the networks in New York. Instead, they decided to wait until Chi and the Coast voted, and meanwhile reauthorize the national board to call a strike unless the pact is concluded "satisfactorily."

The Chicago and L.A. chapters also held meetings (20). The regional contracts in both these cities are still being negotiated. So, pending the results of these negotiations, the chapters followed New York's lead and also reaffirmed their previous strike authorization.

There was general feeling that the new strike votes were not indicative of the possibility of a general walkout by AFRA in any of the cities involved or on the networks. However, the fact that the major chapters has approved the national agreement meant that the networks had been doing what the best possible terms in the regional pacts before they sign the overall commercial and sustaining agreements with the networks.

Bigger gripes on the Coast came, as expected, from sound effects men who feel they are being sold short. But others, both in Chi and Hollywood, feel that the new pact have wiped out differentials in pay to which they have objected.

Mars' Mex. 'I.Q.'

San Antonio, Dec. 23. Mars, Inc., sponsors of the "I. Q." show, on the NBC network, each Monday night will sponsor George Marston in a similar series called "Mexican Minute." Marston is known as the Mexican "D. I. Q." and has aired a similar series since 1941.

Unions Get Go-By On Xmas Bonuses At ABC, NBC Nets

Christmas came at all but members of the CBS, the New York headquarters of the NBC and ABC networks last week. A series of letters from the members of a trade union received a bonus the equivalent of two weeks' pay. The union is the IATSE. Those who are members of any union got none.

CBS, the bonuses, equivalent to one week's earnings, were paid to all regardless of union or non-union status. At Mutual there were no bonuses.

The newly organized A.S.N. of Broadcast Unions and Guilds, comprising talent as well as technical units in the field, discussed the matter last night, Friday night (20) but took no official action. While reps of the major unions were present, no action was taken for union action, they withheld common action while the organization is still in the process of its constitution, and gets itself officially accepted by the component unions like AFRA.

But the Radio Writers Guild immediately registered a squawk. In identical letters addressed to NBC and ABC, Michael Davidson, RWG exec secretary for the eastern region, said the guild was making a "premium on unionism," and were "discriminating."

Bonuses, claimed Davidson, are "profit sharing plans" which compensate employees for their contribution to the organization's profits during the past year, and he insisted that the unions had made as much contribution as those who do not belong to unions.

Net execs claimed that bonuses are a wage advance, and that they were giving them out to those who depend upon the parent employer to make their living.

Regardless of the interpretation, the lack of bonuses caused resentment among the writers, producers, engineers, staff writers, staff musicians and others. Many got angry, and some even threatened to leave the matter had been handled in a way as to encourage ill feeling and break up morale.

MENTAL LOGISTICS Dutch Net Plans N.Y. Psychology Airtel for Reproduction

The Dutch national radio wants to do a show explaining and dramatizing psychology over its national network.

Fact came to attention last week in New York. Dutch information bureau in New York, Dutch Information Bureau (N.Y.) to record the station's Friday night show, "The Mind," which was hosted by Dr. Alan Fromm. Show was waxed at it came off the air Friday (20) night. The show was to be broadcast in Holland next day by a member of the Dutch staff who was going to be in New York. The show was to be broadcast in Holland next day by a member of the Dutch staff who was going to be in New York. The show was to be broadcast in Holland next day by a member of the Dutch staff who was going to be in New York.

WORLDWIDE RADIO

UN Earmarks '94G for '47 Radio: U. S., Shortwave Operations Hypoed

The United Nations is preparing to go into radio, both as far as the U. S. is concerned and shortwave, in a big way during the next year. The UN budget, adopted a couple of weeks ago, "confined" an item of \$794,000 for its general radio operations. That sum is more than three times the approximately \$250,000 which the UN spent for radio in 1946.

Significantly, the '94G has been earmarked by the UN for "general and interim" purposes only, and is not intended for use for the proposed world-wide network which has been bandied about some which but about which no definite decision has as yet been made. The world-wide net, when and if materialized, will have a budget of \$2,000,000 for operations alone, aside from the amounts needed for capital expenses like transmitters, studios, relays, etc.

While none of the plans for the use of the \$794,000 has yet been spelled out clearly by UN officials, it's known that two divisions will be hyped with that money. One is expected to be an increase in the shortwave work being done currently in the official "Five" languages—Chinese, Russian, English, Japanese, and Spanish. These languages are on the air now only a half-hour each, but will be increased to a full hour each. The second division is to be an increase in the shortwave work being done currently in the official "Five" languages—Chinese, Russian, English, Japanese, and Spanish. These languages are on the air now only a half-hour each, but will be increased to a full hour each.

Latter idea will embrace a complicated step in which the UN is expected to become an applicant before the FCC. Currently, stations in this country cannot receive the UN broadcasts, and the UN is expected to be a point of origin to all countries in the world, they cannot be picked up by stations on the originating continent.

Second operation to be hyped by the new budget is expected to be the work of the U. S. Radio Liaison Office, Christopher Cross, Cross' service, and recordings, is expected to be stepped up considerably, and more of these people—scripters, producers, etc.—added to Cross' staff.

Cross' job in organizing the Christmas and New Year's Day greetings by networks and stations around the country has elicited interest from the UN secretariat brass who, until now, had been aloof from radio. At least two of the major nets had their affiliates record the UN greetings and spots, and the UN recordings from closed-circuit playback goes by the webs.

Thackery Double-Take Puts Them Back in FM Race for N. Y. Market

Washington, Dec. 23. Dorothy Thackery of the New York Post and World Telegram & Sun changed her mind a second time and is now back in the FM race in Manhattan. It was previously reported that she had decided to drop Thackery & Co. of the MRS, but specifically Thackery, last Thursday, reversed her earlier decision and "withdrew" her petition to withdraw from the New York FM race.

Thackery explained the double-take in testifying last week before the FCC's application for nighttime operation and increased power in its present wavelength in competition with Westinghouse's WWOV, F. Wayne (WOVO) radio most power on the same channel). Thackery said of more newsworthy, and if it could get more in 1947 than it had in 1946, would suffer a \$1,000,000 paper closer a deal for a Maryland plant, and now feels confident of being able to undertake expansion in the radio field.

Al and Sherwood Schwartz

radio comedy writers
detail
the travails of

"A Joke Is Born"

an editorial feature
of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Wismer Named Richards Aide; Stays With ABC

Detroit, Dec. 22. Harry Wismer, director of sports for the American Broadcasting Co., and one of the nation's top sports announcers, has been named to the post of WJR, Detroit; WCAR, Cleveland and KABC, Los Angeles. G. A. Richards, owner and president of the stations, and Wismer entered an agreement over the weekend after negotiations had been pending for some time. Wismer will continue to retain his ABC post in addition to broadcasting sports events. The Wismer-Richards contract is for one year.

The association between Wismer and Richards culminates a friendship of long standing, starting when Wismer, in 1933, joined WJR upon being recommended by Charlie Bachman, coach of Michigan State's football team. Wismer had quarreled for Bachman at the University of Florida, and when the latter shifted his coaching affiliation to radio, Wismer went along with him as an underdog aide. In 1937, Wismer became sports director of WJR. He joined the Blue network as sports director in 1941, and continued in that job when it became ABC.

CBS Bryson Act— You'll Be Sorry!

There are a lot of jittery department heads around CBS these days because of the frank, direct approach being used by Lyman Bryson in his new position as general policy, etc., on his Sunday afternoon "Time For Reason About Radio."

For one thing, they're not very happy over the fact that they're being taken into network confidence in getting a pre-broadcast o. o. of the script pertaining to their department and duties. In framing the initial draft of his talks, Bryson consults with the departmental heads, but he reverses the opinion of Bryson, Ed Murrow and prexy Frank Stanton, who gives the final say on the scripts, no one else is permitted a gander at the completed script.

Murrow, with his nose supervision the weekly talks are being broadcast under CBS' plan to take radio's problems in the people's hands the "no-can-se" edit on the assumption that it will give Bryson a freer hand.

WBEN Chicago, Dec. 23.

One of eight programs to be cited by Mayor Kelly's Commission on Human Relations for "Outstanding" radio programs of 1946, the WBEN was given an award for its contributions toward the program.

STEELE'S

A quiet but effective campaign to drive from the airwaves every radio gabber ever-so-slightly left of center was seen shaping up during the last week, after Johannes Steel, outstanding commentator in that category, was fired by the Metro-owned N. Y. station, WJIN.

In quick succession after that dismissal—following by only one week the release of Frank Kingston from his cross-the-board stint on WOR (N. Y. Mutual flagship)—came two more regarded as significant by the radio industry. These were: Rumors that Kingston, William S. Gallner, Dr. J. Raymond Walsh, and George Hamilton Combes, Cecil Brown, and possibly Raymond Swing were next on the list; reports that liberals around the country who organize against this trend under the leadership of former Vice President Henry A. Wallace, Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, Jack Krull, of CIO Political Action Committee, C. B. Baldwin, exec vice chairman of the National Citizens PAC, Dr. Davidson, chairman of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, J. B. McKeith, director of Friends of Democracy, and others.

But the list has a Sunday morning spot on WOR (for Inkography), and Gallner still has a Sabbath talk on WJIN, and the list is still in the air.

But the list is still in the air. Gallner is on WJIN regularly, as is Walsh on WMCA. But the list is still in the air. Gallner is on WJIN regularly, as is Walsh on WMCA.

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Bulova-WOV Dilemma Seems Solved As Henshel Moves In On N.Y. Indie

Irving Brecher

beseeches

"Let's Cut Out Clean Jokes"

on editorial feature
of the forthcoming

41st Anniversary Number
of

VARIETY

Mutual Labor Angle Wins Little Flower

Deal for Fiorenzo L. LaGuardia to switch over from ABC network to Mutual on a co-op basis, starting Jan. 8, when the ex-LA, Y. M. plot for a 10-minute commentary, is on \$1,000,000 guarantee basis. That's the same the LA's was pulling down as a sustaining commentator on ABC, for whom he winds up Christmas night.

One of the factors in LaGuardia's pacting the three-year agreement with Mutual is that the new co-op series opens up labor union sponsorship in some areas, with the Annual Bank decided to backroll LA's in Chicago. Similar labor union commercial auspices are currently in negotiation. In addition, the ex-Mutual was influenced by the assurance that he would get a Washington as well as a Chicago hearing. He had long been dissatisfied with the ABC deal because the latter web was unable to deliver those cities.

While the program starts off as a Saturday feature, LA's is still canvassing the advisability of switching over to a Wednesday evening time slot.

Advance feints put out by Mutual indicated that at least 40 affiliates were interested in picking up LaGuardia for potential co-op sponsorship.

Acquisition of former New York Mayor LaGuardia as a Mutual co-op feature focused further attention last week on that net's front-rank position in the field, since LaGuardia made the 12th show being peddled by Mutual in the share-the-cost-share-the-revenue basis.

Even while LA's package was on the way, wrapping Walter Hauer, head of CBS co-op sales, counted up a total of 684 co-op airings on the net, with 36 airings added in the last two weeks.

Most of the co-op sales are still in the galling flesh of Fulton Lewis, Jr., leading the pack.

CBS Sets O'Keefe Show;
O'Sullivan May Sponsor

CBS on Saturday night (21) auditioned for the 10-minute program "O'Keefe's Little Show." It's being written by the woman, Mrs. J. O'Sullivan, who is the supervisor of comedy programming for the network, and Aaron Rubin.

On the way, CBS used the program in the Saturday night 7-7:15 segment, with 11,000 of O'Sullivan in the air. The show, which O'Keefe has been missing from the commercial radio picture for a number of years.

It is to be a studio audience, and the CBS has been making the studio lends itself more readily to an interrupted session.

Irving Mansfield is producing.

Col. Harry Henshel, minority stockholder of WOY, the Arde Bulova-owned New York indie and president of the WOY-Mutual Corp. which owns the station, moved in last Friday (20) on the WOY operation, with the action seen as the initial maneuver toward solving Bulova's dual-ownership problem in N. Y. Bulova owns WOY, and all efforts thus far to dispose of WOY have been unsuccessful, principally because of the opposition of Edward O'Dea, another minority stockholder in the station.

For some time there have been rumors that Bulova would divest himself of WOY, but would keep it in the family. Henshel's move-in on the station would seem to lend credence to the report. Henshel is Bulova's brother-in-law. Also (and this was stressed by Henshel as the solution of the problem) he and O'Dea are reported to see eye-to-eye on the station, whereas his other brother would withdraw further opposition.

Henshel once before stepped into the WOY operation, starting in December, 1941, when the Italian-language station was in a critical financial straits. Henshel started as a philanthropic and public service enterprise, the possibility of a Henshel-Bulova deal was not a solution of the problem as a healthy gesture.

Simms Show Edict: Deliver—Or Else

As pointed out in last week's VARIETY, the Glimm Simms show is the only one in the business to have the sponsor (Borden) hot seat. When the show recently slumped to a 7-12 rating, Borden started beefing. Although the heat has been partially off due to a rating leap to 10.2, if it slips again, Borden is probable that Borden will cancel out Simms when his 38-week contract ends.

Meanwhile, Donald O'Connor has gone into the show for the remaining 28 weeks, with Young & Rubicam given assurance that it would stay put until the spring.

There's some intra-program conflict on that doesn't tend to ease matters, either. Last Friday's (20) show, when O'Connor took over the comedy spot on a permanent basis, was reportedly a last-minute rewrite job because of squawks from the network that O'Connor had went overboard in putting the spotlight on O'Connor.

Murrow is not to be balked that if the Simms show is dropping, the account may also move from Y&R to McCann-Erickson, the agency the entire billing. CBS produces "County Fair" on K&E for Borden.

Radio-Pix Combine In New Airing Showcasing Original Film Scripts

New half-hour radio package is in the works, with the net's original film scripts, with a listener plot to be taken after each performance. The net's first time to audience approval or disapproval as to its plot potentialities. In effect, it'll make the first time that radio and pix have combined to give the film public what it wants by its own terms.

Negotiations are currently under way to line up pix companies in the venture. The net's plan is that each studio would rotate at the end of each 13-week cycle in acquiring the film rights to the scripts.

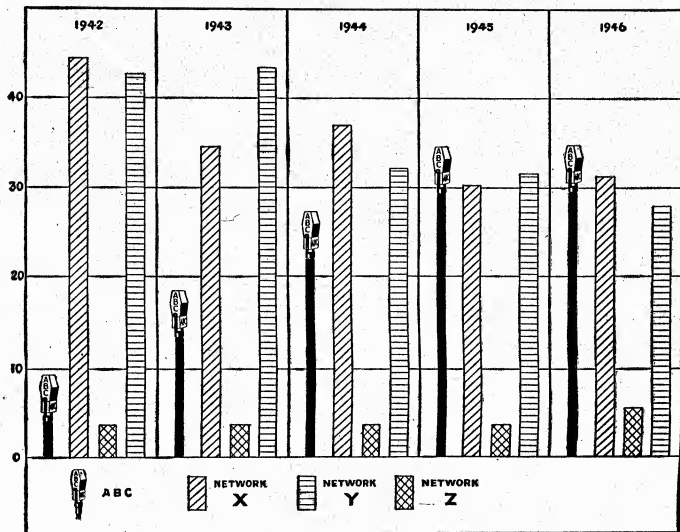
Scenarios will be solicited via the usual channels, agencies, film studio executives, and the net's own staff. Tomlin, freelance radio producer, is currently whipping up the final format.

WITH THE 10 TOP FOOD ADVERTISERS ABC IS FIRST

NETWORK RADIO EXPENDITURES TO LEADING FOOD ADVERTISERS

1942-1946

FIB & Broadcasting Year
Book—1946
1st 7 mos.



There's plenty of food for thought for all food advertisers in the chart shown above. Study it and you will see that, today, ABC is the No. 1 network with America's foremost food advertisers. During the past 5 years total network radio expenditures of these 10 food advertisers have increased only 47%—but during that same period the share of their business placed with ABC has increased 450%!

Why the big swing to ABC?

There are three particularly good reasons.

1. COVERAGE. ABC now covers most of the 300 leading markets from within. In four years 84

new stations have been added in these markets, in 39 others improvement of facilities was also effected. **2. INCREASED LISTENING.** In the year October 1945-1946 ABC was the only one of the three leading networks to increase its share of audience both in the daytime (up 34.6%) and nighttime (up 10%). **3. PROMOTION.** ABC's 238 stations do an all-out local promotion job on ABC's network programs.

If you have a product to mass sell to the American public, why not do as Kellogg, General Mills, Quaker Oats and others are doing—ship it to market via ABC, the American Broadcasting Company.

ABC American Broadcasting Company

A NETWORK OF 238 RADIO STATIONS SERVING AMERICA

U.S. Tabu Vs. Recordings Busted As Mutual Transcribes Bilbo Tilt

Washington, Dec. 23. What may be a precedent for getting mikes and recording equipment into future Senate and House hearings was set here last week when, for the first time, proceedings of a Senate Committee were recorded direct for radio, and parts of the verbatim transcriptions later broadcast over hundreds of stations throughout the country.

Radio got its first break when Senators James Mead (D., N. Y.) and Homer Ferguson (R., Mich.) agreed to let Al Warner, WOL-Mutual news chief, and his staff bring a hearing into the Senate War Investigating committee hearing room when Senator Theodore E. Bilbo took the stand Friday. To answer charges accusing him of illegally aiding war contractors, Bilbo himself played the WOL request, the result that the Mutual newsmen for the second time this year pioneered in opening hitherto closed guarded Government sessions to radio mikes.

Mutual's WOL broke the first tabu

when it took a wire recorder into former Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes' bow-out press conference last spring. Mutual, by virtue of its more liberal policy on use of transcriptions on the network, was "famed" for the verbatim shots from the Bilbo hearing to all affiliates.

CBC-WRC and CBS-WTOP lost no time in following WOL's lead and getting their recording equipment into the hearing room. ABC-WMAI followed its usual practice of sending radio newsmen to the hearing, but did not bring in recorders.

NBC Too-top-off policy for both NBC and CBS forbids use of transcriptions on the network except for very limited, brief or occasional news reports which sometimes are used on a delayed transcription basis. However, although both NBC and CBS gave the verbatim copy a heavy play on three local newscasts, NBC and CBS stations elsewhere were denied an opportunity to hear Bilbo himself in action. NBC listeners, at that, fared better than did Columbia's, since Morgan Beatty used 1 minute and 20 seconds of the records on his "News of the Week" show at 7:15 p.m. (EST) Friday (20).

The actual records themselves point up several problems which radio still has to master if broadcasts direct from committee hearing become the usual practice. Bilbo, for instance, was without a full set of dentures and therefore was barely articulate. Excessive noises of the hearing at times drowned out the questions and answers, indicating that better placing of the mikes is needed. In this particular case, the slowness of some of Chairman Mead's questions wasted valuable air time. In any event, this experience points up the continuing need for such verbatim shots to be edited and interlarded with explanations from a newsmen who can explain stand up as valuable radio material.

KLZ MONOPOLY HOLDS

Cops Kudos Third Straight Year in Award No One Else Gets

Denver, Dec. 23. For the third successive year, KLZ has received the "Ad of the Year" award in broadcasting from the Denver Advertising Club. Award was given to the station last year for originating its "Colorado Speaks" show, a stanza which wraps up on the air the editorial opinion of newspapers around the state.

The club has been making the awards only three years and KLZ won it each year. It was first in the broadcasting division. First citation, in 1944, was for "Fights of the Rockies," program which was also judged by *Variety* Showmanagement citation.

Y & R

Continued from page 27

mer show which General Foods has bought for preeminent over Mutual Mondays, 8-9:30 p.m., beginning Jan. 6.

Jim O'Neill, agency story editor, and assistant producer, Bill Garry, Ed Duerr, temporarily production supervisor on "Vox Pop," steps in at least two of the late.

Max Wylie gets the title of program manager for the General Foods show, though, currently, he is hospitalized because of an appendectomy.

The newsmen went into effect a week ago (18), the day Tom Lewis, vicep in charge of radio, headed L.A. to N.Y.

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS

"CHRISTMAS CHEER AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

From "Lonesome and Ginger" Grey

—Hay—

"A JINGLE SELLS! A JINGLE SELLS!"

So our sponsors say

"That is, Son, Especially One"

BY "LANNY AND GINGER GREY"

Our Best Wishes to All

For a Happy and Successful New Year . . . L. & G.

Happy Felton
(Radio's Marathon Quismaster)
gives a sidelight on the vox pop racket

"A Kiss for Sadie Hertz"

an editorial feature soon to appear in the

41st Anniversary Number of

VARIETY

Gabbers

Continued from page 29

dozen equally prominent gabbers on the West Coast and in Chi—has led to reports that this cleaning of the radio channels is the result of "a plot" that started over a year ago. The "plot" was said to have been launched by the Rankin-Wood Committee on Un-American Activities, and even embraced a number of private organizations intent on pressuring stations and sponsors into a "clean up."

Radio execs, some of them connected with network operations but most of them tied to radio in New York, became alarmed when word of the "plot" spread and when the lineup of the liberal under Wallace was announced. They resented both sides to the controversy—feeling that those responsible for the "plot" had no right to use radio as a political football, and feeling hurt because they were blamed for what they held to be the working of pure economic forces.

Both WOR and WJIN claimed they could not help the dismissals of Kingston and Steel. The latter, in fact, did not even blame his station.

Steel Buys Own Time WJIN had kept Steel going on the air at a sustained fee for a full year. His contract was slated to expire in February. Last week, he was notified that this option would not be taken up again, since the station could not sell him. Steel immediately picked up his own option and paid the station for a week's air time in advance, and stayed on his regular 7:45 p.m. cross-the-board spot to tell his listeners that they must support him.

Steel started a move to build a circulation list for a private news service, of the kind which might be used by the station. His plan is to get enough subscribers to his sheet to give him the funds for the news letter to become his radio sponsor.

"When I have enough money to buy my own time," said Steel, "I'll get it, or the FCC will hear from our side."

Steel instead of blaming his dismissal, laid the blame for his dismissal on the labor unions, "liberal groups," and such who had failed to do anything substantial to keep the trend from developing.

Steel has all done a lot of talking, and beating their breasts," he said, "but they've done nothing. Now we're ready to look the stable door after all their horses have been stolen."

But the groups led by Wallace held meetings over the last week end, trying to work out a campaign to get some of these dismissed commentators back on the air, and to keep others from being fired. Efforts were made to enlist in the campaign at least two of the late President Roosevelt's sons—James, who had been fired on the West Coast, and Elliott who has been interested in radio for years.

Meanwhile, a sharp station protesting against Kingston's release was set to WOR by Kroll, Davidson and Baldwin, on behalf of their organizations, accusing this station of joining "a general crusade to keep liberal commentators from the people." The station's signers argued that WOR's action against Kingston was "in direct contradiction to FCC principles" since the station's "one-sided interpretation of the news through reactionary commentators like Fulton Lewis, Jr., Union Close and Henry Taylor."

Kansas City—KCMO, ABC outlet, has made two additions to its office staff. Frances Hudnut has joined up as secretary to Clarence B. Brown, assistant manager of the station. Marie Gaylord takes over as secretary to C. E. Morrill, manager of local sales.

WEEL BREAKS OUT WITH RASH OF LIVE SHOWS

Boston, Dec. 23. With its apen "Coffee Club" off the network on Dec. 27, WEEL (CBS) replaces with a local variety show called "Beantown Varieties" broadcast at 10:30. An audience participation show, the Varieties is m.c.'d by Carl Moore with the cast including Gloria Carroll, Ed Zaslaski, a western trio, and the seven place band.

The move to the WEEL audience as of same date is "Breakfast in the Sunny Room," also audience participation show, broadcast at 10:30 in the room of the Hotel Touraine. Union breakfast setup with prizes like coffee and music. Talent includes Bill Elliott, singing cop, Al Infantino, accordionist, and m.c. Hal Newell.

Third new WEEL show is "Hub Club," half-hour weekday slot at 5:30 p.m., replacing Evelyn Howe's "Varieties." Miss Howe bows out to get married in the spring. "Hub Club" will feature a variety of acts and features hot combination for music plus chatter, etc.

Springfield

Continued from page 28

tened was the man's name reported. Keefe got to a phone and then came "revolving door."

WSPR with a good newspaper-translator editor and a dependable legman, the victim of the next move whereby the announcers are the real news editors. They choose whatever items suit them. Their news is not only in plenty of "color" copy, but in the kind of negative editing that brought the station news of the death of the town's leading brand in the early morning, but no broadcast until the early afternoon.

To the listener, it often sounds as if there were a feud between some of the WSPR announcers and its news bureau. One announcer, given to gibbering on the copy prepared by the bureau, encountered a very graphical error in copy referring to one of the city's principal manufacturers. The fire spent the next minute speculating in public whether the man was correct as written, or whether it might really have been a parody it so obviously was intended to be. He ended up by confiding held check with the news bureau and let the folks know in the next newscast. The station settled the matter privately, but it didn't add up to good public relations. On another occasion, an announcer aired, without checking with the news bureau, a participating attorney's version of a police case the bureau had covered earlier.

At WSPR, production overhauls, too, have set a pattern other communities must do well to follow. current singing community (for Ford) ends with a trumpet flourish and the announcer repeats the day's date's obituaries." The person who tunes in for the carefully prepared notices gets a very uneasy sensation that the obits are getting a Gabelsch buildup.

WZL-WZLA, the Westinghouse Boston and Springfield synchronized stations, have made no attempt to serve Springfield listeners with local news, while WACE, the Regional Broadcasting company's new day-timer at neighboring Chicopee, has set up a one man news bureau which seems content to rewrite the Holyoke Transcript or the metropolitan papers which are served by local stringers. The station, born during the news blackout, is still a place for listeners, having done relatively little exploitation.

WHY? operated by the Holyoke Transcript, doesn't come into Springfield reliably enough to fill the void, and its chief concern is with Holyoke happenings.

With no strike settlement in sight, listeners are taking what they're getting, but they're also dishing out plenty at the stations' expense. Not only professional newsmen, but a lot of radio attempts at coverage, but no woman's club meeting is complete these days without a radio rebroadcast of the weirdest tangles by the announcers with familiar Springfield names.

WOR'S NEW EXEC SETUP

Two veterans of the Buffalo Broadcasting Co. were this week named executives in the newly-organized WOR-Broadcasting Group, by President I. Lounsbury. F. Robert Greene, who became assistant general manager, was with Buffalo Co. 12 years, and Nat L. Cohen, new sales manager, was in charge of major accounts for the past 15 years.

Block Programming Set Permanently at WKCY

Following 6-Month Test Cincinnati, Dec. 23.

At the winding of a six-month test, WKCY is chalking up its experience in block programming as a definite "hooperated success." Incorporating the system as a permanent basis for its air schedules in 1947.

Block programming, which involves airing of one type of program over an extended period rather than introduced at WKCY after the station's execs conducted a survey of program techniques used at several New York cities including WNEW, WHN, WMCA and WNYC. System was started on the test six months ago. WKCY went all out for the method even presenting its religious and social interest block formation. Station's basic theory is being hourly newscasts, with popular, semi-classical and classical music served in large quantities with a minimum of talk between numbers. System was started on a through-Saturday setup but the format was extended into Sunday last week. The latter period of block programming was accompanied by a sharp increase in listener ratings and mail pull.

A preponderance of popular programs, both network and local, over a long period of time has developed at WKCY a rare, habitual audience, an evidence "loyalty" of important significance to advertisers.

Through a Diary Study conducted by Advertising Service, Inc., the degree of this "loyalty" has been measured as 75% of the audience of the overall WKCY program is habituated from the preceding WKY program. 18% are new tune-ins, and 9% come to WKY from other stations.

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Carle May Reach 7,000,000 Disks For Top Band Sales in the Past Yr.

Frankie Carle's piano and orchestra, which have been labelled everything from corn to manana, is probably the top record seller from Columbia Records for the first six months of this year, indicating a total sale of approximately 3,285,000 disks—and the dope is that the second six months, ending Dec. 31, will be better.

If the prediction on the second half is correct, Carle will have sold during 1946 between 6,500,000 and 7,000,000 disks. There may have been bands as good as Tony Dorsey's, Harry James and Benny Goodman, who at the height of sales interest sold more than 12 months ago. Carle, however, has gone much beyond the pianist's '46 figure, if at all. And there's no question that Carle has outdistanced any rival band on any label, since this year, similar to last, has been a singer's paradise. Name bands haven't been near the soloists in sales figures, with the exception of Carle.

Palladium Sings Siren Sugar Song to Guy Lombardo

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Maury Cohen, operator of the Palladium, has commenced negotiations in this case, Guy Lombardo and his entourage for a run next summer. It is understood that the Lombardos biggest guarantee-percentage terms the Palladium has ever proffered an orchestra.

However, ballroom operator is not very sanguine over his chances of making Lombardo, who for years now has been mechanically fixed all territorial rights. Last location job underook on Coast was a stand at Coconut Grove a decade ago. When he left Metro last year, Guy Lombardo refused to accept \$12,000 for three nights at Pacific Square in Hollywood in San Diego, over a week before band was to leave before camp.

Palladium is pretty solidly set for next calendar. Following Charlie Spivak opening Thurs. (26), and come in at week intervals are Vaughn Monroe, Stan Kenton, Les Brown, Tony Pastor, Gene Krupa. That fills out the week to Dec. 27, and for several weeks Cohen figures on Sammy Kaye, Jimmy Dorsey, Tony Benke, Xavier Cugat and, of course, Lombardo—possibly.

J. DORSEY SET UNDER M-G LABEL

It is very probable that Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra will have completed a deal with the new M-G-M label by the end of the month. Since Dorsey secured a release from Decca several weeks back, he has been working with the M-G-M men and also talking to Mercury, which has been very anxious to sign him. However, M-G-M deal is apparently more attractive.

If Dorsey seals with M-G-M, the band will be first in line for a central booking the new company has been able to grab in the face of determined opposition on talent by rival major disks.

Arnez Cuts Ciro's Date in Half With Approval

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Deaf Arnez band will close at Ciro's Dec. 31, after run of six weeks. Originally ticketed for 12 stanzas, Arnez and nitery and the dissolution of pact following New Year's Eve.

But Arnez isn't too far ahead of late, and band has a heavy schedule of recordings and a musical tour to do for Universal-Intertone, which he gives as reasons for taking out. However, orchestra has been tabbed for the stand at Aragon ballroom, opening Jan. 17.

Bobby Sherwood will reorganize with Hollywood musicians men for Ciro's Gardens date, starting Jan. 11; he disbands in east this week.

Walker Easts After Metro Studio Meets

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Frank Walker, proxy of M-G-M Records, planned back to New York before the end of the year. Three-day confab here with Metro studio execs. Talk centered chiefly on details which will be worked out minute smoothing before waxy commences production at its Bloomington, Ind., plant.

Marvin Schenck, M-G-M v.p. for five days on local scene conferring with Jesse Kaye, playboy's after chief, trained for New York last Friday (20).

Chi Sherman Hotel Dropping Bands

Sherman Hotel, Chicago, for the past few years, one of the main 'prestige' name band spots, is dropping its band policy as of Feb. 28. Sherman's Panther Room, which housed the biggest combs available at various times, has like a majority of the non-band cafes and the users of music, too, not been doing too well recently at the b.o., and the hotel's management, Ernie Bode, feels that for the present the policy must be laid aside.

After Feb. 28, the Panther Room will be redecorated and renamed with a sort of Beachcomber or Copacabana motif, one that's said here to have been the primary cause of the action, is Herman's inability to convince his musicians that a change of musical ideas was necessary. It's not that Herman's band was composed of a group of men who desired nothing more than to play the type of music the band has been dispensing for the past two years, and which made it one of the better selling bands. But the boys wouldn't settle for quieting down.

It's said that Herman and his managers recognized the recent trends away from hotter arrangements, and wanted to soften his delivery. Men wouldn't go for the idea, and rather than weed 'em out one by one and replace them with musicians more amenable to the current trend, Herman decided to toss 'em all out at once and start anew for a rest.

His Musicians Held To Have Nixed Sweetening So Herman Breaks Up

Chicago, Dec. 23.—One of the reasons for the abandonment of his current orchestra by Woody Herman, one that's said here to have been the primary cause of the action, is Herman's inability to convince his musicians that a change of musical ideas was necessary. It's not that Herman's band was composed of a group of men who desired nothing more than to play the type of music the band has been dispensing for the past two years, and which made it one of the better selling bands. But the boys wouldn't settle for quieting down.

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Sy Oliver Signed For Metro Recordings

M-G-M record label, now building an artist personnel, has taken on first Negro bandleader, Sy Oliver. Oliver, formerly of the Oliver-Torrey orchestra, debuted recently at the Zanzibar, N. Y. Metro deal is for two years.

Oliver had a recording deal with some months ago, but later severed connections with the label. When he will make his first M-G-M disks is unknown.

ASCAP, SACEM Settle Row On War-time Coin

All difficulties between the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and SACEM, the French performing rights society, over performance money due each other during the war, were settled during last week's ASCAP board meeting in New York City.

Dispute between ASCAP and SACEM stemmed from the refusal of each to pay its due until the other did its part. The American Property Custodian in the middle. Though the dispute waxed hot, it did not disturb the good relations between the two societies following the end of the war.

As it stands now, ASCAP has agreed to forward to SACEM some \$280,000 that has accumulated toward its account here. In return, an undisclosed sum will be paid ASCAP by SACEM, in France, whereas the ASCAP coin will be in dollars.

At the same time, SACEM gave ASCAP a release to proceed with negotiations for setting up a separate deal with the Belgian performance rights group. Hereofore, the Belgian outfit had been represented at ASCAP by SACEM, all monies going through the latter to the U. S. Now SACEM has agreed that the Belgian outfit has come into maturity and should have the right to deal for itself.

\$7,000,000 Take For ASCAP '46

Final-quarter revenue of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers was declared last week at \$1,800,000, which brought the year's take up to slightly over \$7,000,000, a sum slightly under last year's distributable revenue. Final quarter, which, of course, is only an estimate made solely to distribute to publishers checks before Xmas, added to previous quarters of approximately \$1,700,000, \$1,800,000 and \$1,800,000 (in round numbers) didn't set a new income record for the Society, but it was a big step.

Following the board meeting at which the last-quarter coin was declared, checks went out immediately.

Novel Folk-Song (Calypto) Defense In \$150,000 'Rum and Coca-Cola' Suit

Ellington's 1st Musicraft Disks to Be Issued Jan. 1

Duke Ellington continued cuttings for his Musicraft album Wednesday (18) in his fourth session for the platters. Album release will follow marketing of the first of the single releases Jan. 1. Later will be "Happy Go-Lucky Local" parts 1 and 2.

"Local" is the fourth part of the Duke's "Deep South Suite," introduced at his "last night" charges he tossed at Benny Goodman last week with N. Y. Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians. It seems a number of buyers of name bands for location spots, and even one-night-ers, have had similar gripes for some time; though they have done nothing about it now, a goodly number are emboldened by the lack of charges—verbally only, of course.

They don't exactly level rays at B. G. but the quiet number of maestros whom they claim have no desire to work too hard with the exception, most of Sammy Kaye and Tommy Dorsey. One-night men are particularly strong against such habits, pointing out that the leader who's making a momentary stopover at a neighborhood ballroom must work to the fullest extent of his ability since he has only a few hours to convince whatever audience he has.

Moss B. G. Rap Creates Stew

Nat Moss, operator of the 400 Club, New York, stirred up a hornet's nest at B. G. when he charged he tossed at Benny Goodman last week with N. Y. Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians. It seems a number of buyers of name bands for location spots, and even one-night-ers, have had similar gripes for some time; though they have done nothing about it now, a goodly number are emboldened by the lack of charges—verbally only, of course.

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'Doctor, Lawyer' Gets Big 'Revival' by Pub With Hutton-Cap Tie

Burke Van Heusen, publisher of the tune, "Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief," one of the sales hits of this year, expect to go to work on the tune again coincidental with the reissuing of Betty Hutton's Capitol disk of the number, and a new one made for Decca by Hoagy Carmichael, writer of the tune. B-VH got a sale of approximately 350,000 of the tune the first time out last winter and spring, but the sale, it's felt, was restricted somewhat by Capitol's withdrawal of the disk after Miss Hutton moved over to the Victor label.

Now, however, that Capitol is reissuing the disk after getting Miss Hutton back from Victor, and thus launching the resumed affiliation with a bang, B-VH will try to cash in again. It's probably the briefest period between original hit and revival on record.

Faced with defending Leo Feist, Inc., Mayor Amsterdam, Jey Sullivan and Paul Baron, publisher and co-author of "Rum and Coca-Cola," the pop song hit of a couple of years back—and possible damages up to \$150,000—attorney Julian T. Kelly, in a recent decision, during the five-day trial of the issues before Federal Judge Mortimer Myers in New York City, ruled that even though the verse and chorus of "Rum and Coca-Cola" is similar to the one submitted by ASCAP, it was published in folio form in Trinidad, British West Indies, neither is copyrightable on the premise that folk songs cannot be legally restricted.

Using John Taker Howard as his expert witness, attorney Abeles sought to prove that since the days of the prohibition, minstrel shows could be no exclusive claim on folk songs. Citing that Howard is a member of the board of ASCAP, a member of its songwriters' classification committee and an expert on American music, he argued that the use of such songs is a common practice.

Pettillo Demands \$1,000 Bond From Embryo Platteries

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Noting that a "recent trend" in recording industry shows that some companies are not financially solvent, the Recording Industry Association of Musicians, has ruled that hereafter any pop-platter recording artist who must post \$1,000 bond with Federation. Otherwise no license to record will be granted.

Pettillo further has ordered that deposits must remain in escrow until the artist's contract is fully granted. Move was made after union nationally has taken cognizance of growing number of bankruptcies. Recently, Musician's Local 47 has switched from old policy of permitting any waxing grace of two weeks after a session before demanding that musicians get paid. Put into effect just before Christmas, the rule said that cash in advance must be put up by any new or relatively untied platter-ers here.

Local 47 has a growing list of names in the independent category because defaulted in payoffs. In addition to the defunct waxers, ASCAP has a list of names who were Pan-American, Preview, Paragon and Paramount labels.

HENDLER SUES COSMO IN CONTRACT BREACH

Herb Hendler, who headed the artists and repertoire department of Cosmo Records, is suing for breach of contract papers on that company in a \$20,000 breach of contract suit begun by him through attorney Leonard Zisman. Suit is based on an unexpired term of a three-year contract signed between Hendler and Cosmo in 1943. His claim is that Cosmo is covered in the claim.

In addition to the above figure, Hendler is asking also for attorney allegedly never paid him on Cosmo's recording sales since he joined the company. One of the clauses in the agreement gave him a percentage of the firm's billings. Altogether the suit asked for damages between \$25,000 and \$24,000. Action is against both Cosmopolitan Records and Cosmo Records, Inc. Hendler says the company had shortened the official name.

Barron Set for First Date at Meadowbrook

Blue Barron's orchestra has been set for his first date at Frank Dallas Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J.

Band opens Jan. 11 for three weeks and follows the current Les Elgart.

"Gal in Calico," Remick music plug, wound up with 142 performances on Patman sheet last week, a new record.

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OF
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Barton Settles With Dorsey Bros. On Same Title and Same Lyrics

Threat of an infringement suit by Dorsey Bros. music firm against Barton Music over the latter's song, "There I Go Out With You," has been dissolved in a settlement worked upon between the two firms.

DB complaint against Barton was that they have had a song by the same title since 1945 with same title, identical lyrics and almost identical music though both tunes were written by different teams. Barton tune was a current plug, whereas the Dorsey firm song wasn't.

At any rate, Barton agreed to cutting Dorsey Bros. in on the proceeds of its song and will proceed with its promotion. Part of the settlement will be paid by Barton and part by the writers of the Barton version, Bernie Wayne and Ben Raleigh. DB tune was penned by Billy Plot, Pierre Norman and Don Pierce. This arrangement mollified DB, and all preparations for a suit have been discarded.

Musiker Local 47 Puts Tyler in 4-Star Hands

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Musicians' Local 47 has had to step in as arbiter and decide dispute as to which of two recording firms, Four Star or Coast Records, holds exclusive waxing pact with Tyler, the outliner. Four Star won the nod. Argument flared after Tyler recently penned a pact with Coast. But though last July he had signed for two more years with Four Star.

Charlie Washburn of Coast signed Tyler in the belief his contract with rival firm had expired. In returning Tyler to Four Star on basis of unbroken pact which still has long time to run, Local 47 returned to the platters its top-selling artist, Tyler having sold about 300,000 Four Star disks within past year.

Hungarian conductor George Rozsa presented William Shuman's "American Festival Overture" and George Gerashwin's Piano Concerto in B in Vienna last week. George von Szemere was pianist.

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Novel Song Case

Continued from page 35

can music, he testified that the last k. suit over folk songs concerned "Home on the Range."

Attorney Emil K. Ellis had a major in the Air Corps, a marine, two GIs and two Air Corpsmen as his expert witnesses to prove that "mudhole and daughter" was part of the "Yukon" dollar, was part of the folk of Calypso which Kahn sold out to a tent in Trinidad, Rupert Grant.

Philip Lord Inverdi, is the accredited author of Khan's "Rain and Coca-Cola" song publication, and it was evidenced that radio comedian Morrie Amsterdam visited Trinidad in 1940 with a USO-Camp Shows unit and thus picked up the tune. He first copyrighted it in his own name, but later the authorship was given collaborative credit to Miss Sullivan and Baron through their exploitation and arrangement on radio and when she was at Club Versatiles, N.Y. nitty.

Ames traced the narrative ballad from England to France to the kings of Africa; that these were the reservoir of odd ball French slave-runners took these Calypso from Africa to the West Indies, and that Trinidad became the focal point of this type of offbeat folk song. From the latter, minstrelsy and public attention to today's exponents, like Burl Ives, was the evolution of folk songs, and the Calypso people of something or other, which is what the calypso does today. Defense and prosecution were in a dead-end melody in public domain. The debate and Ellis have until Jan. 15 to file briefs.

Andrews Sisters' recording sold 2,300,000 platters, and, with other recordings, sells music sales, performing rights club, etc., between \$125,000 and \$150,000 is involved.

Western Ballroom Ops Will Lay Red Ledgers Before Maestros, %ers

Western Ballroom Operators' Association, the organization of a score of top terrace potentates and one-time promoters currently in line along the Pacific Slope, has decided to put a switch at its next big convocation, slated for Jan. 23 at Los Angeles. Instead of huddling together and sobbing over present bo. blues and blaring high-priced bands and the bigger booking agencies, the association has invited to the meeting all name, ballroomers and agency men who will be on Coast at that time.

According to Marty Landau, secretary of WBOA, the ballroom managers are being encouraged to bring their crimson-coated ledgers to the pop-wax as prime exhibits in effort to obtain concessions, chiefly pecuniary, from bands and agencies. Since its inception last mid-summer, WBOA has been blasting orchestras' high coin calls and denouncing what it termed agencies' indifference to sorry plight of ballroom boogymen. Nothing happened, which probably cued in new approach. Also invited to the roundtable session will be Larry Shaw, chief of ASCAP's licensing division. Terpalence lately have been squinting at him what they term excessive ASCAP rates.

10 Best Sheet Sellers

(Weekly Ending, Dec. 21)
Old Lampighter.....Shapiro-B
Ole Buttermilk Sky.....Burke-VH
World's Best Tune.....Vanguard
Sentimental Reason.....Duchas
Gal in Calico.....Remick
Woe.....Remick
Things We Did Summer.....Morris
Rumors Are Flying.....Oxford
Zip-a-De-Do-Do-Do.....Santly-Joy
Winter Wonderland.....BVC

Second 10

Sooner or Later.....Santly-Joy
Zip-a-De-Do-Do-Do.....Santly-Joy
For You For Me.....Chappell
Girl That I Marry.....Berlin
You Keep Comin' Back.....Berlin
Huggin' and Chalkin'.....Hudson
This Is Always.....Valiant
Coffee Song.....Valiant
I'll Close My Eyes.....Maurice

Brit. Pubs Due In U. S. in Batches

London, Dec. 13.—Tri-Pan Allietes are leaving for U. S. in batches after first of this year, considered very dry.

Early in January sees departure of Jimmy Kennedy, Art Strauss and Ted Turner. Later, a group of young team of music publishers who have scored two bulls' eyes this year, considered very dry.

Irwin Dash, head of Irwin Dash Music Co., Ltd., and Hugh Charles, head of Royal Gay Music, are part sometime in March. Jimmy Phillips, director of Peter Maurice Publishing Co., follows soon after.

HERBECK'S MEADOWB'K DATE IS DORNBROOK

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Local band-bookings office of William Morris and Frederick Bock agencies are quarreling over each will get the commission on Ray Herbeck's new when crew of the podium at Meadowbrook ballroom Dec. 26 for indec. stay. Seems that Herbeck has snatched away rep rights to both offices.

Actually, it's claimed, it was boomer Billy McDonald, FB who set the date, at \$1,850 weekly for the 14-piece combo. Jack Arler, of Morris, however, says his office and a deal afoot at Meadowbrook, which called for \$2,000 per stanza for crew.

Herbeck over weekend admitted to Varsity that he actually has signed with both agencies. On Dec. 28 he says he squiggled a one-year paper with Morris Chicago rep. Pat Lombard, dated Dec. 3. Boiner claims that Lombard gave him a verbal agreement that he would be freed of commitment within five weeks from date of signing if Morris got him no bookings. When that period elapsed, Herbeck inked a pact with Frederick office and says he heard no more from Morris until he had spotted them for a booking. Paper Herbeck scrawled for FB is for one-year duration with option extending for six more.

Both agencies are adamant in claiming full 10% on date. As result, after huddles with Herbeck, the full affair has been forwarded to American Federation of Musicians' headquarters in N. Y. for clarification and decision.

Kenton-Jeffries Deal Nixed Over Wax Pacts

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—Deal for Herb Jeffries to join Kenton's band as a specialty vocalist was nullified last week two days before singer was to have joined orchestra for ten weeks, chiefly validities.

Kenton claims he understood that when his manager, Carlos Galt, labbed tested the quondam Duke Kenton's orchestra was free to work with orchestra on forthcoming Capitol records and transcriptions. Jeffries, however, is under disk pact with Exclusive Records exclusively and cannot get a release.

After a dispute of Kenton deal, Jeffries scooted north for one-nights in Pacific Northwest, taking with him Eddie Beale's sepiin combo.

Songs With Largest Radio Audiences

The top 31 songs of the week, based on the copyrighted Audience Coverage Index Survey of Popular Music Broadcasts on Radio Networks. Published by the Office of Research, Inc.

Survey week of December 13-19, 1946

A Gal In Calico—"Time, Place, Girl".....Remick	W. T. Barnes
Anybody's Love Song.....Miller	Miller
Best Man, The.....Vanguard	Vanguard
Blue Skies—"Blue Skies".....BVC	BVC
Coffee Song—"Cajon Pass".....Valiant	Valiant
There I Go Out With You—"Deceit".....Chappell	Chappell
Five Minutes More.....Melrose	Melrose
For Sentimental Reasons.....Duchas	Duchas
For You For Me Forever—"Shocking Miss Pilgrim".....Chappell	Chappell
Girl That I Marry, The—"Annie Get Your Gun".....Berlin	Berlin
I Guess I'll Get the Papers and Go Home.....Carnell-Porgie	Carnell-Porgie
I'll Be Home for Christmas.....Melrose	Melrose
I'll Close My Eyes.....Maurice	Maurice
In My Merry Oldsmobile.....It's All Over Now.....BVI	BVI
It's All Over Now—"Time, Place, Girl".....Witmark	Witmark
Oh, Baby! Do—"Time, Place, Girl".....BVC	BVC
Ole Buttermilk Sky—"Cajon Pass".....Oxford	Oxford
Rumors Are Flying.....Oxford	Oxford
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.....Morris	Morris
Things We Did Last Summer.....Dorsey Bros.	Dorsey Bros.
This Time.....Santly-Joy	Santly-Joy
White Christmas.....Berlin	Berlin
Whole World Is Singing My Song.....Robbins	Robbins
Woe.....Remick	Remick
Years and Years Ago.....Bourne	Bourne
You Keep Coming Back Like a Song—"Blue Skies".....Berlin	Berlin
You Keep Coming Back Like a Song—"Blue Skies".....Berlin	Berlin
Zip-a-De-Do-Do—"Song of South".....Santly-Joy	Santly-Joy

Following songs are those that did not have enough performance credits on the week to be included in the top group. They mostly are tunes rising in popularity.

A Happy Night in Reno—"Time, Place, Girl".....Witmark	Witmark
And So To Bed.....Famous	Famous
Christmas Song.....Burke-VH	Burke-VH
I Have But a Dream.....Mutual	Mutual
If You Were the Only Girl.....Southern	Southern
Let It Snow.....Harmon	Harmon
More Than You Know.....Miller	Miller
On the Other End of a Kiss.....Beverly	Beverly
Put That Kiss Back Where You Found It.....Robbins	Robbins
Rumors Are Flying.....Starlight	Starlight
Save Me a Dream.....Santly-Joy	Santly-Joy
Sooner or Later—"Song of South".....BVC	BVC
To Each His Own—"To Each His Own".....Paramount	Paramount
What More Could I Ask For.....London	London
You Are Everything to Me.....Paramount	Paramount

1 Filmstrip, * Legal Musical.

Redman Tooters In Middle of Nitory Wrangling in Paris

Paris, Dec. 23.—

Don Redman and six of the musicians from the band that successfully toured Germany and other areas opened Dec. 17 at the Redman nitory here, and the booking began a rumour that is still going on. It seems that Redman didn't have proper permits to go into the spot, and the maestro who preceded him and who was closed out because of a claim of "unprofessionalism" by the management, lodged a suit with the authorities. Beaulieu, therefore, was ordered to close.

However, the nitory's owner, Georges Menjou, brother of Hollywood actor Adolphe Menjou, pleaded for Redman would throw 10 French musicians and 65 other employees out of work, and that employees of other clubs he owned, Ciro, Poliniere and Ecce, would follow, and he, too, would close.

Despite the orders to shut down, Redman's lack of proper permits, Menjou intends staying open and risk a heavy fine. It's believed that the government action is partly retaliation against the American Federation of Musicians' campaign against C. Petrillo, who is not liked here. Balance of Redman's band returned to U. S. last week aboard Queen Elizabeth.

Nitory Given Pay Or Pull Musiker Edict

Los Angeles, Dec. 23.—

Ann Harnett, operator of the Jungle Room, black-and-tannery, has been notified by Negro Musicians' Union No. 747 that the room is to be closed. With Rowland's place, combo must be paid off in full by Dec. 24, or unless they are paid in full and declare nitory "unfair."

According to Ed Bailey, pressy of Los Angeles of Rowland band, Redman is about \$1,000 in salaries; orch has been playing spot for past eight weeks.

TOP HITS OF YESTERDAY

GREAT POPULAR STANDARDS TODAY

From the Charles E. Rogers Production

"THE FABULOUS DORSEYS"

AT SUNDOWN

Words and music by Walter Donaldson

's Newest, Fastest Growing

Revival Hit

SUGAR

Words by Sidney Mitchell and

Music by Mace Pinkard

Bands at Hotel B.O.'s

Host	Weeks	Cost	Covers
Guy Coleman... Waldorf (400; \$1.50-42)	11	\$50	\$3,000
Earl Lombardo... Roosevelt (400; \$1.50-42)	8	\$150	\$1,000
Sammy Kaye... New Lawrence (400; \$1.50-42)	4	1,100	7,500
Sammy Kaye... Pennsylvania (400; \$1.50-42)	4	1,100	7,500
Sammy Kaye... Commodore (400; \$1.50-42)	0	650	650
Johnny Pineapple... Lexington (400; \$1.50-42)	7	1,000	6,500

* Indicates Floor Show, at Waldorf, Frank Sinatra.
† 3 days.

Los Angeles

Freddie Martin (Ambassador; 400; \$1.50-42; indef). Bookings of pre-Yule parties added up to snappy 2,800 hits.
Rosa Argenta (Billboard; 400; \$1.50-42; indef). Parties held mightily here, too; plenty okay 2,800 covers.

Chicago

Met Cooper (Mayfair Room, Buckingham hotel; 350; \$1.50-42.50 min.). Evans room took a bad licking this week with only 1,800.
Glen Gray (Panther Room, Sherman hotel; 400; \$1.50-42.50 min.). 'Twas the week before Christmas and only 4,000.
Stephen Kiley (Marine Room, Edgewater Beach hotel; 700; \$1.50-42.50 min.). New Xmas song kicked this up to 4,200.
Clayce McCoy (Boulevard Room, Stevens hotel; 550; \$3-43.50 min.). McCoy replaced Ted Wexler and splitting week 4,800.
Joseph Sudy (Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel; 465; \$2.50-43.50 min.). Regular holiday parties for this family spot make for a nice 3,500.

Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

(Los Angeles)

Deal Aras (Ciro's, N. Hollywood, 6th wk.). No mice were heard but pre-Xmas full curved took down to 180,000. However, 5,300 danced not too main a pull with most other upholstered pubs dying.
Guentz Base (Avondale, N. Los Angeles, 2d wk.). Only ballroom here really doing; 10,000 customers, a bit off rock first week.
Art Kassel-Dick Stable (Argon, B. Ocean Park, 2d wk.). Stable opened Tues. 17 in support of Kassel. Not pre-Xmas blues abounding, but foggy weather crippled further. However, 5,300 danced not too bad, setting some returns on snappy ballyhoos.
Vida Mase (Meadowbrook, B. Culver City, 7th wk.). Saged to 4,000. No buyers, not too terrible, with no rock first week.
Will Osborne (Triton, B. South Gate, 3d wk.). Operating over weekend nights only; 3,500.
Charles Barnett (Cassio Gardens, B. Ocean Park, 2d wk.). Slowed like most others; 6,500.
Tommy Tucker (Palladium, B. Hollywood, 5th wk.). Hardest hit of all holiday halls; fewer than 10,000 last stanza. Charlie Spivak opens Thurs. 26).

Chicago

Gay Kridge (Chez Paree; 550; \$3-43.50 min.). Into the 11th week with terrific 5,700.
Eddy Howard (Arland; 900-\$11.15 adm.). Final week very handsome 16,000. Dick Jurgens follows.
Buddy Shaw (Latin Quarter; 700; no min. for first show, \$3-\$3.50 min.). New show clipping along at fair 3,300.
Lawrence Welk (Triton; 900-\$11.5 adm.). Before 16,000.

6-Piece for Shavers

Charles Shavers, one of the trumpetsters around, who has been working with Tommy Dorsey's band, is establishing a small combination of his own. He is figuring on a six-piece outfit of clarinet, tenor, drums, bass, piano and his own instrument, to begin after the first of the year, managed by Arthur Michaud.
Until that time, Shavers will be fulfilling the Capitol Records, N. Y., run with T. D. band, which opens Three Dances, N. Y. He is now working at the four-piece group, but it is not a set band.

French Music, Record And Orchestra Business - Face Postwar Problems

SACEM, under pres. Albert Willemette, the local equivalent of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, turned up a total \$600,000 for the half year ending July 1. For the second half of the year, the money to be cut is estimated at twice this amount.

A few facts are nevertheless missing in the picture. The club, instead of not doing as well as they were, resulting in unemployment for many performers. Record business is limited by the shortage of the necessary materials and equipment. Cost of sheet music has gone up to 25 cents per copy, meaning that instead of issuing copies freely to band leaders to collect revenue from performing rights, the publishers now wait for musicians to buy their paper, which slows up exploitation of songs. Price of disks has gone up from 12c to 85c, and 75% of the product pressed is earmarked for export. An effort to provide appreciated currency, going mostly to Switzerland and Belgium, as does a certain amount of sheet music.

Main trouble from the American angle is that rights revenue collected for ASCAP's account is frozen here. American music is doing well here, evidenced by the fact that the State controlled radio is using American tunes about one hour a day. American material here is being published by the publishing firms of Francis Day, Chappell, Breton (Leeds), S.E.M.I., S.I.M., France Modale (Jouet Metro music), Sablat and Peter Morris (Ray Ventura). Same firms handle the French film music, which has been greatly facilitated. Before the war, the rights here could retain 5/12 of the rights by the strange amalgam of supposedly writing new lyrics to the mechanical rights of the publisher here without resorting to that trick, the other half going to the original holder of the rights, or rather frozen here until such time as foreign exchange becomes possible. (Continued on page 38)

Jean Gerlinger
(Former officer of the International Confederation of Authors Societies)

"Where Are We Heading in International Copyright?"

an editorial feature of the forthcoming
41st Anniversary Number of
VARIETY

Indie Disk Dates Must Be Paid For In Advance—47

Hollywood, Dec. 23.
Local 47 of American Federation of Musicians has issued edict that all newly recorded material for indie firms must pay windmills in advance of a waxing date. In past, platters were paid for in advance, a period in which to pay off following a session, and as yet the old established recorders have been harassing indie reps with union to get this way.

Pre-pay regulation for new companies was implemented after difficulty Local 47 had last month with Urban Records, Coast odd-label, which detailed on musician pay following a disking date. Since, Urban has been making payments by degrees and as result has not been blacklisted by union.

Finley Files New Suit Against MCA

San Diego, Dec. 23.
Long-threatened suit against Music Corp. of America for \$50,000, was finally filed today by Larry Finley. Action charged that the agency continued to withhold name bands from Finley's Miami Beach Ballroom, even after a previous court decision had found in favor of the op on similar charges.

As in his previous action, which resulted in a jury award of \$37,000 last March but in no damages because of no strings attached, Finley set aside judgment with the declaration that there is no legal basis for the determination made to a dancer, Finley charges that MCA gave exclusive contracts to rival ballroom operator, virtually rendering a monopoly in the San Diego area.

Finley has been reported contemplating the suit for the past several months, but because of commitments with his electrical transcription firm in New York was unable to travel to the Coast.

Chicago Diskbox Ops Reject Plan to Jump Take to 10c Per Play

Chicago, Dec. 23.
City diskbox operators reportedly rejecting distributors of over 7,500 machines turned thumbs down on the suggestion to increase play per record to a dime straight or three cents per record. Idea of raising to a dime a throw in many cities met its doom here. Spokesmen for the dealers told although prices of records, machines, and labor was up, now was not the time to change to a dime. Ops feel that they will go off at bars and bistros customers would resent the hike.

Peculiar twist to the deal is that Chi is the home of most of the photo manufacturers who have been prominent in the fight for a hike in prices. Manufacturers and reps argue that with servicemen getting 80 a week; boxes costing 10c; and the price of records on an average rising from 25c to 40c or 45c that the average cost per record play rises to three and a quarter cents, after which the local ops make their split with location owners.

Music Notes

Ell Oberstein flying to Coast next week to supervise rock or RCA-Victor recordings, including sessions by Freddy Martin orchestra and Page Cavanaugh Trio... Tex Anderson has recorded two more vocal platters for King platters... Buddy Baker, musical director of Exclusive Records, Coast pop-platter, east for fortnight... Dining Sisters cutting western swing for Capitol Records... After six years with Decca outfit for Jimmy Wakely has switched over to Capitol Records, giving that waxy a total of eight male sagebrush singers... Eddie Dean, outliner, has had past with Mercury Records renewed... Jack Ostfeld, chief of New York office of Stevens Music Co., on Coast for confabs with Irving Massey, Hollywood rep, and also for opening there at Palladium Thurs. 26) of Charlie Spivak, majority stockholder in Stevens... Exclusive Records, Hollywood label, opening New York office Jan. 15, with Artie Machin in charge... The Volstead crew come to New York with Decca outfit for Enterprise Records... Benie Adams, Mercury Records' artist-and-rep chief, and firm's recording director Jimmy Hillary, back in Chicago waxing four new sides with Tony Martin, Lee Penney, Merle Haggard, chief of rustic rhythm dept, also was in Hollywood last week, looking for hillbilly talent... Victor Young now waxing album for Artists Records, Inc.

Inside Stuff—Orchestras-Music

When b.o. figures were at a great height here, one angle in the refusal of the Palladium, Hollywood, to increase band salaries at that time apparently is not generally known. It seems the Palladium's operators own neither the ballroom building nor the ground it stands on, but the are owned by the Los Angeles Times. The fact the spot's profit was great before and during the war, but the rent to the Times left the Palladium's ops little room to play with income tax returns on the place, such as maintenance, and a result, they were forced to cut each year's b.o. gray, and the spot, it's claimed, actually was not in a position to greatly increase band bids. Too, it was felt by the ops that in the event of a bump, they would be stuck with the increased salary. They figured it is always easier to go up than to try to come down when the time came.

Although music publishing is flopping around in sales dumps generally, unemployment rate among songwriters is proportionately and unusually low. Part may indicate publishers have jettisoned old theories practiced during bleak big periods in past when they lopped pluggers off payrolls by squads. Idea would now seem to be to drive harder to impress tunes on public, rather than hand out a result. The result is that according to the songwriters' union only five tune-outs on Coast out of more than 100 card-carryers are presently off a payroll. Of upwards of 350 active pluggers around N. Y. but eight are out of work. None of the 72 in the mid-west, Boston and Philadelphia is unemployed.

Over weekend, Frank Sinatra sliced two new sides for Columbia records, using Page Cavanaugh Trio as background. The Swonsoper personally had to put the urge on RCA-Victor's vergee Ell Oberstein to get the three songs, who were pacted by Victor recently after combo was cut free from defunct ARA platters. Sinatra wanted Cavanaugh group because he was detested them on airshow, and in securing permission for trio to tontol for Columbia there was no strings attached. Last spring Sinatra got the Pied Pipers on platters with him, even though Pipers are under pact to Capitol, but at that time it was a reciprocal deal, with Columbia letting Cap have Pearl Bailey, a Col artist, for Johnny Mercer's "St. Louis Woman" album.

Columbia Records turned up a special exploitation hypo to their pressing of "Connecticut" by the Modernaires. When first pressings came out of the B's Bridgeport plant the governor of Connecticut and all mayors in the state were present. Decca has by Bing Crosby and Judy Garland, while Capitol has Martha Tilton, Victor has Herbie Fields and Muscraft has Artie Shaw doing the number.

Viennese Plant Stamps 800 Disks Daily, Hopes To Reach 2,000 Soon

Vienna, Dec. 12.
Elite Gramophone plant, which said production of disks reached 800 daily, with hope to arrive at 2,000 next year. For Christmas production first time after many years—large number of disks will be free for sale (without tickets).

Willi Forst goes "Steh auf liebes Wien" music by Peter Wehle, is best seller.

M-G INKS ARGENTINIAN

Hollywood, Dec. 23.
Metro reached all the way to Buenos Aires to sign Hugo Fregonese to a director contract, starting in April.

Deal was made as a result of Fregonese's work on "Where Words Will," filmed in Argentina.

Cugat to Texas Chitabe

Hollywood, Dec. 23.
Xavier Cugat orchestra signed for the Brownsville, Tex., Centennial, Feb. 12-15.
Four-day stand, Cugat will draw \$28,000 its heaviest road coin to date.

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Union Backs Sonja Henie's Firing Of Choristers for Pulling 'Wildcat' Strike

Detroit, Dec. 23. Sonja Henie fired 16 chorus members of her "Hollywood Ice Revue" when they struck for an increase in their weekly pay of \$30 plus \$35 for expenses. Their union, the American Guild of Variety Artists, announced them from membership for what was called a "wildcat" strike. It placed their names on the unfair list for failure to live up to their contract.

But the young skaters (three of them girls) got backing from the Detroit Teamsters (AFL) which refused to move the show's equipment out of the Olympic Stadium until the skaters told them it was okay.

Just what arrangement was reached between Miss Henie and the skaters was not revealed.

The skaters explained they were paid \$30 a week with \$35 to cover all hotel, meals, tips, cleaning and share sharpening expenses. "We're lucky if we have 30 cents left at the end of the week," one of the first girls said.

Miss Henie, who has always drawn well in Detroit despite her amazing juggling the Frederick B. office and will remain with Abner Greengard agency.

Vodka Version of 10%

A troupe of Russian performers was brought to the United States by one of the top agencies which immediately proceeded to give them a terrific publicity buildup. They had a showing date at a theatre hired especially for the occasion. The troupe, fortunately, was not to their advance publicity at the showing date, and the audience of agents and bookers forgot their professional capacity and cheered wildly.

After a prolonged clamor, the troupe's interpreter explained that with the exception of one performer, none spoke English, and this one knew but two words. The performers demanded that he be heard.

The actor advanced to the mike and after a few false starts in Russian, he spoke only English words he knew, "Abe Lastogoff."

New Year's Eve

Reserves 65%

Under Last Yr.

New Year's Eve reservations in New York cafes are running far behind that of last year. Average cafe is booked to about 35% of capacity, although a few cafes such as Copacabana, Carnival, Latin Quarter are virtually sold out for that evening.

Last year, at this time, nearly all cafes had been sold out, and many were taking reservations.

However, bonifances aren't too worried about the Eve despite the thin list of reservations. They feel that a considerable number of last-minute callers will come during the forthcoming week, and if that doesn't materialize there'll be enough transient trade to fill nearly all the tables.

A. C. Hotels Angling For New Year's Trade

Hotels here giving incentives a run for the New Year's eve trade and lulling the New Year's eve trade, which seem not to be paying too much attention to holiday revelers. The Hotel offering supper at \$12.50 per person and formal dress required. Marlborough - Blenheim not so particular about formal although it will be encouraged with \$10 scale.

The Claridge plans two parties. One formal at \$9 per head and the other at \$3.00 per. Other tariffs are: Traymore, \$15; Ritz-Carlton, \$5; Ambassador, \$10; Chelsea, \$5.

As for the niteries, Babette's has set a \$2 cover charge. Most other spots will charge about the same, figuring such low scales will encourage free spending.

Joe Browning
(Vet Monologist)
presents his case to prove there's life in the old gal yet with

"Who Said Vaudeville Is Dead?"

an editorial feature
in the forthcoming
41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

Many Niteries Drop Gal Lines to Prune Talent Budgets in Current Slump

Chorus lines employment in New York has taken a dive since the niteries slump began. Lines have already been tossed by La Martinique, Havana-Madrid and Belmont Plaza. It's estimated that cafe operators save around \$1,000 weekly on the average line. Cuts generally get around \$75 and cost of routineing, counting and producing accounts for the remainder.

Line salaries have risen from an average of \$40 per week, while finer new costs around \$200 per cost as against an average \$75 in 1940.

However, slump as yet hasn't been too severe, as majority of clubs using the printers are still retaining them. Copacabana, Latin Quarter, Diamond Horseshoe, China Doll, Carnival, Island, Leon & Biddle's and Greenwich Village Inn are retaining favorites. However, there's the possibility of further cuts if the slump continues after Jan. 1.

A. J. BALABAN RENEWED AS ROXY, N. Y., BOSS

A. J. Balaban, executive managing director of the Roxy theatre and for the last five years, has renewed his contract with 20th-Fox, Roxy's new, for continued management of that house. Deal is for five years with film firm having the option for an additional three-year period.

Terms of the deal weren't disclosed but it's believed to be along the lines of the old pact which called for \$1,000 weekly, plus a bonus based on earnings of the house.

Balaban, who took over the house in 1941, is generally credited with having instituted a series of improvements which hiked grosses considerably. Among them were reconstruction of the stage which gave the house a greater degree of intimacy, and a considerable hike of the talent budget which enabled the Roxy to play top names.

Balaban has been in showbusiness since 1906 when he started as a singer in Illustrated songs. He pioneered in de-luxe presentation houses, and later, helped found the Balaban & Katz circuit. He later was in charge of talent contracts for the Paramount Public chain of 1,600 houses.

Irving Lesser continues as the Roxy's manager.

Susan Reed, Niteries Singer, Set for Concert Tour

Columbia Concerts is booking Susan Reed, niteries ballad singer, on a 10-week concert tour next fall, dates selling at \$750. This will mark the first longhair tour for the 21-year-old Barney Josephson discovery.

Tour grew out of the fact that Victor is putting out the first album of records in February, the recording company approaching Columbia's v.p. Fred Schick and selling him on the idea of the concert tour.

Singer, who accompanies herself on harp and zither, will also carry a pianist. She's daughter of legit p.a. Indora Bennett and playwright Dan Reed.

Munshin's Cafe Date

Julie Munshin, comic in the new "Call Me Mister" has been signed for Cafe Society Uptown, N. Y., starting Jan. 23. He'll double from the musical.

Lucienne Boyer, the French chanteuse, will headline the following Cafe Society Uptown show.

Major Talent Agencies Trim Staffs To Counterbalance Postwar Adjustment; Many Letouts Seen After New Year

Major talent agencies are preparing to effect a considerable trimming of personnel after Jan. 1. Wholesale cuts are according to top executives, to meet an expected drop in revenue.

Process has already started at Music Corp. of America and General Artists Corp., where several agents were let out recently. Others are expected to go out shortly after the New Year when further cuts in the entertainment market are likely to make itself felt.

One agency exec declared that the talent offices must adjust for a return to pre-war conditions when the prices for services and must be prepared to face the fact that many cafes will not be buying as heavily as they did in the war years.

Theatre departments haven't been as hard hit as the cafe sectors, inasmuch as the vaude billings are still holding up and, as yet, no theatres have dropped stage shows. However, revenue is dwindling in the theatre.

Mont'l Niteries Prep for Heavy New Year's Biz

Montreal, Dec. 23. Survey of the night spots and theatres shows that plenty New Year's eve biz is expected. Though spending coin is not as plentiful as last year, niteries report heavy reservations for the festive night.

With war industries shut, light, and strikes and reconversion blocks slowing industry, the bonifances were pessimistic this year, but according to the way things have been going they're not worried now.

Prices in the top spots will be about the same as last year. El Morocco will charge \$6 and Normandie Roq. \$7.50. Usual floorshows will be shown in these spots. Mount Royal hotel is opening its Jacques Cartier room to carry the overflow of the Normandie Roq. Charge will be \$6, with Erni Ardi's orchestra supplying the music. Samovar's tariff will be \$6, with Irene Hilda heading the show.

Theatres, main stem and nabes, will have vaude shows, but tickets are reported moving only so-so. Legit offering opening Christmas night will be "Voice of the Turtle" at His Majesty's.

that field as well, because of the demerits of bands. Theatre bookers are turning to personalities as headliners instead of orchestras, which in many cases produce less commissions than bands.

However, the more serious drop is seen as coming in the band department of the various agencies. Road conditions have been sub-standard, which combined with the drop in the vaude market is likely to cause serious inroads on agency revenue.

Another factor affecting agency income is the slight of the year-over-head. Several top band leaders are reorganizing to cut down payroll and overhead. Consequently, the orchestra won't be getting as much coin, which will further decimate agency takes.

The cutting down of agency overhead, however, is not expected to be permanent. The offices look for a pickup as soon as the leveling of period is completed. They feel that the people will want to step out as soon as the economic status of the postwar period becomes evident. Agency execs feel that people are holding off because of continued rise in prices which cuts down on the luxuries such family is able to afford. With stability, they feel, the mobs will be spending again.

SONIA CORTIS INTERNATIONAL SINGING STAR



Opening January 3
BELLERIVE HOTEL
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Fields Stays With Greshler
Freddie Fields has reconsidered joining the Frederick B. office and will remain with Abner Greengard agency.

CAPPELLA AND PATRICIA

are dancing away with the show of Bill Miller's Embassy Club... presenters... highly individual routines in every tempo... they even have a "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU" number that for sheer jauntness is unsurpassed... always appearing as a vision of mobile beauty...

VIRGINIA FORBES, New York Sun.

Held Over 8th Week

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Zanzibar Shifting to Ole South Site, With Ofay Policy for Current Stand

Cafe Zanzibar, N. Y., largest user of big-time Negro talent is reported as being ready to shift its operations to the shuttered club formerly operated as the Ole South, located over the Latin Quarter. Dicker is on for the Joe Howard-Carl Eber operation to move into new spot Jan. 20.

Current Zanzibar site, it is reported, will close temporarily for refurbishing and will operate with an ofay policy and a change of name. Gertrude Nielsen is likely to appear at the palace shanty at the larger cafe. There's the possibility that Jan Murray will also be on same program.

Operation of the Zanzibar and the united club, will make the Howard-Carl interests the largest cafe operators on the Siem. They also operate the Singapore restaurant, on the original site of the Zanzibar, atop Winter Garden.

If the Nielsen deal is set for the close, this will mark her first nity appearance in seven years. Some years ago, she headlined at the Hurricane then operated by Dave Wolf. Zanzibar subsequently closed over the spot. Miss Nielsen has been out of cafe and vaude circles for several years because of her appearance in the long running musical, "Follow the Girls."

Frohes, Miami, Fold;

Burley Idea Didn't Jell

The Frohes, Miami, which had been operating with burlesque for a time and talent for its floorshow, was abruptly last week when it was bought by Charlie Lewis, who had been operating. "There'll be no show tonight."

Spot operated about two weeks with show headed by Margie Hart, stripper, and Eddie "Butt" Kaplan, comic. Lewis is reputed to have dropped \$30,000 in venture, with consensus of opinion being the idea might have had a chance if launched later in season.

"Payoff" talent was made from security pool posted with American Guild of Variety Artists. When fold came, AGVA wired money to San London, its Miami rep, to pay the salaries of the troupe.

N. Y. Cafe Pacts Foster

At Sliding Salary Scale

Phil Foster, current at La Martinique, N. Y., has been reported by that cafe for an extended season next season. Comic, who started at \$250, has been signed for three four-week periods which calls for an initial salary of \$1,000 which increases with every option period. Top salary next year will be \$1,500.

Foster, a recently discharged GI, will be followed by Al Bernie, whose opening date hasn't been definitely set.

Piccadilly Canteen Folds

The Slade Door Canteen, Piccadilly, for over two years' continuous rendezvous of 2,500 service men and women, is to be shut down Dec. 28.

Charles Dickson chairman of club, has been spending \$10,000 weekly in maintaining it, some of the money subscribed by himself and friends. To date, they've spent over \$300,000 in operating.

Premises has been leased by owners to the British Broadcasting Corp. to be used for broadcasting for next three years.

Albany Bistro's Icer

Kenneth hotel, Albany, N. Y., resumes entertainment Friday (27) with an ice show "Serenade on Blades" headed by Bob and Peggy White.

Hotel had been on the unfair list of the American Guild of Variety Artists because of a pay situation which was straightened out last week.

Wash. Nitory Drops Show

Treasure Island, Washington, D. C., has dispensed with floorshows as of last week and will operate as a straight eatery.

Talent on last show was paid off from security up at American Guild of Variety Artists.

Harry G. Smith wops for "Burlesque: a Good Cal Cone West"

an editorial feature
in the forthcoming
41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY
Our Soon

Adams, Newark, Cited 'Unfair'

Adams theatre, Newark, N. J., has been cited unfair by American Guild of Variety Artists for failure to adjust claim of Burns Twine and Evelyn Layton. The troupe pay for shows they appeared in at house several weeks ago.

Under A.G.V.A. regulations in its new pact for theatres all acts getting less than \$700 per week are only required to do 30 shows weekly for that sum and are to be compensated pro rata for extra performance beyond that figure. This, which comes within this category, played seven extra performances, and in seeking the additional remuneration took the matter to the union.

A. A. Adams, who operates house in partnership with Paramount, was notified on the discrepancy by the union, which claims he was doing nothing about adjusting. Little mortgage is paid before Dec. 26, AGVA will not permit its members to perform in the new show, slated to go on at that date.

He'll Have Suite Now!

Jerry Rosen is fortifying himself against hard times in the agency biz, rather than set to open a tailoring establishment, to be operated by a partner.

Rosen was in that line before becoming an agent.

Saranac Lake

By Happy Benway
Saranac Lake, N. Y., Dec. 22. The club member of the colony received Yule greetings from Sophie Tucker.

Albert Gaffanti, technician for the National Service, left for N. Y., where he'll continue the "Cure."

Helen Marshall, widow of Jimmy Marshall, in for a weekend to make final settlements of the Marshall estate consisting of a cottage and farm, also a camp on Rainbow Lake, Gaithersburg, Md.

Abby (ATSE) Seizman beat the rap and has returned to his home in New York City.

Margaret Dougherty, songstress, checked out of the Rogers with all-down town colony with her husband, who is in business.

Helen LeClair, Carlson, Edith Gales and Helen Grady have progressed so well they were handed a 10-day furlough to spend the Yule-tide season at their homes.

James (RC) McCarthy happy over news that he can hit the Big Town and home in March.

After three months of observation Jerry Lane (Princess Natoma) left for N. Y. C. to get a final O.K. from a specialist before undergoing major operation.

Eddie Vogel, who was appointed headman in the Will Rogers research laboratory, left for a 10-day outing to the Big Town. Ditto for William "Shuffle" Headley, who will play house Claus at his Philadelphia home.

The usual annual "Christmas Eve Pops in the Sun" now being arranged. All patients will be gifted and will be hosted at dinner and blowout.

Feature headlines are being lined up for the coming Lake Placid winter carnival. Lowell Thomas will act as emcee. The show will feature King and Mimi Benzell as queen of Winter. Yearly event generally packs the colony with visitors with the Will Rogers patients getting a big play from the gang.

Elda Benedict, who is doing nicely, with the cure routine, pepped up by visit from her mother. The gang would like to send thanks to Charles Smukwitz, Lillian Brown, Jerry Sager, Eddie Weber, Annie Brown and Max Shapiro for their donations and gifts used to put on entertainments and parties for "We the Patients."

(Write to those who are ill.)

STATE, N.Y., BOOKINGS SET UNTIL NEXT MARCH

Locu's State theatre, N. Y., sole straight vaudeur on Broadway, is leaning increasingly to standard acts since Sidney Piermont took over the booking chores several months ago. Piermont, who has lined up majority of acts on bills to last until March, is using most acts that have played the house previously.

However, some acts new to the house have been set. Among them are Buddy Morens, former Harry James vocalist recently discharged from the United States Marine Corps. Hill, Wilbur Evans, Monica Lewis, Ray Heatherton, Dean Martin and Gene Raymond. However, many performers have played other vaudeurs and cafes.

Among the standard names going into the State are Johnny Mooney, Yvette, Slate Bros., Jean Carroll, Leonard Shaw, Bonnie Baker, Johnny Downs, LeRoy Keay, Richard Langan, John Boies, Jack Carter, Max Rosenblum and Max Beer. Molly Brown, LeRoy Peabody, Arthur Robbins, Sallie Puppets, Tommy Dix, Dolores Gray, Benay Venuta and John Calvert.

Creditors Reshuffling Plans to Keep Balto Nitory From Fold

Baltimore, Dec. 23.

A committee of creditors is trying to work out a solution for the financial difficulties of Francis J. McLane and his Walnut Grove nitory, which moved a brief but ambitious career of big name entertainment here. Secured creditors include the Brooklyn-Curtis Bay bank, which holds a first mortgage on real estate and chattels for \$12,000; Nathan A. Rice, with a second mortgage for \$10,000; and U. S. Government, which has filed liens for taxes due of \$28,000. Additional claims amount to \$154,000.

The musicians union has a tab in for \$5,800, said to represent unfilled obligations and guarantees for actual salary. The union music will be permitted in the spot until that claim is settled. There is a possibility of the plan of repaying if creditors accept a plan of the committee offering continued operation on the strength of a third mortgage set up for an additional \$25,000 raised by McLane.

Opening of Walnut Grove last October created considerable stir in the local nitory and, with subsequent bookings of star and name bands, combos listing Lou Holtz and Vincent Lopez, Willie Howard, Frances Faye and Johnny Lund, Harpo Marx, Slate brothers and Tony Pastor and on the windup, Sammy Kaye and his revue. Location in far reaches of industrial area skirting the city and generally inept handling of all operational functions plus bad timing of opening at end of the war-boom spending era, contributed to the folds. Spot, with a capacity of 900, drew some trade, mainly on week-ends and on early shows, but free-spending element remained in downtown section, where competition countered with equally strong marquee strength, but in proportion to profit potentialities.

Vaude Unit Assembled Out of H'd After Hiatus

Hollywood, Dec. 23.

First vaude unit to be assembled here in nearly a year is "Hollywood and Yule," which Bert Lahr is offering combo houses in the Far West for the next 100 weeks.

The 12-peopled lineup, including five of six girls, is topped by vet stars, Kermit Dart and Maxine Slocum, plus several novelty troupes. Unit currently is rehearsing.

Riviera Nitory Files Bankruptcy

Bill Miller's Riviera, Ft. Lee, N. J., last week filed a petition of bankruptcy in the Newark Federal court listing liabilities of \$182,800 and assets of \$27,500. Cate was purchased this year from Ben Marden at a reported \$750,000 which included a considerable portion of surrounding land.

Closure of the nitory, haven't been too forte, although Miller several times declared that weekend his had been sufficient to balance weekly take.

Spot, however, will continue operation under "New Year's Eve," at least, and no closing date has been set. This is the first year since the club was founded that it has not been open during the winter season. During the Marden ownership, spot shuttered in the fall.

Marger Delays Parnell's Skedded Visit to U. S.

Val Parnell, head of the Moss Empire circuit of England, has cancelled passage for his Jan. 11 sailing on the Queen Elizabeth. Parnell was slated to make talent deals and survey the American theatre situation. Reason for the change is the pressure of detail connected with the Moss Empire acquisition of the talent rights of the G. C. O. of the British Empire. Parnell is affecting organizational changes because of the GTC takeover.

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Broadway Boxoffice 'Upbeat' Just A Dreamload of Wishful Thinking

Any idea that Broadway patronage would pick up the week before Christmas because of the life-saving proved to be wishful thinking. It was hoped that some of the houses, and then really didn't, some houses, slipping under a stop-light levels but there were no reports of closing notices being posted for packages that heretofore have been pretty profitable.

Among showmen there has been some difference of opinion as to the economic value of theatre parties. It was noted that attractions which had parties were doing better than others. One show that had arranged for many parties in advance of opening ran Broadway for packages deal last week, and the gross added downward more than \$500. One of the newer shows was having to play to empty seats since opening, and while it drew mixed notices the actual boxoffice drop was not indicated, according to the treasurer.

First of the two holiday weeks that started Monday, December 23, were a premiere card of the season, there being six openings spread over only three days. Theatres closed before opening of Christmas evening and two musicals ringing up the following night.

Difficulties have been several of the incomes both financially and technically, while out-of-town receipts were distinctly less than usual. Four arrivals are still positive, a sudden addition to that position of cards being "Lovely Nell" retitled from "The Temporary Mrs. Smith." Play had no house allotted and accepted a change into the "Finnian's Rainbow," currently in the "Finnian's Rainbow," latter being musical.

Broadway is still waiting for a new musical. Best regarded at tryout so far this season is "Finnian's Rainbow," currently in the "Finnian's Rainbow," latter being musical. William R. Katzell, who teamed as managers last season with "Home of the Brave," another musical, is also trying out, was reported a good during rehearsals but business during last week was disastrous. Two other musicals had fared so badly at out of town boxoffices recently that their general managers took to takings usually registered by straight show-in-betweeners.

Agencies saw no betterment in the sale of tickets for New Year's eve during the week, and unless there is normal for all the ticket brokers think the scales are too high.

Wolfit Heads Bard Tour by British Co. Of Canadian Cities

Montreal, Dec. 22. A revival of interest in Shakespeare, sparked by the successful run of the Old Vic Co. on Broadway last season and by the socio reaction to the "Henry V" flicker, will be climaxed in Canada early in January by a tour of Canadian cities by Donald Wolfit and his London Shakespearean company.

Wolfit's group will be the first British company featuring works by Shakespeare to visit Canada since 1939. Before returning to England for the 10th season at the Garden theatre, the Canadian tour has been limited to five weeks. Playing opposite Wolfit as leading man will be Rosalind Ingham, British.

Canuck preem will be held at the Capitol, Ottawa, on Jan. 6, when the "Henry V" will do "Hamlet." Ten-day engagement will follow at the Majestic, Montreal, beginning Jan. 10 given—"Hamlet." "King Lear" at the Grand of Venice, "As You Like It" and "The Merchant of Venice."

Complete rep will also be given after the Montreal run at the Royal Alexandra, Toronto.

Sherek in Earlier London Return For Roland Young Play

The Henry Shereks return to London Friday (27) on the America, in order to put "Truant in Park Lane" into rehearsal on Jan. 6. Roland Young, sailing with the London producer, wants a full month's rehearsal, hence Sherek couldn't wait until Jan. 3 for the Queen Elizabeth, which brought him over a fortnight ago. Young and Lillian Brathwaite will co-star.

Sherek's London hit (Flora Robson starred), "Message for Margaret," by James H. Hunt, will be done in the U.S. by Stanley Glick and Barbara Payne, in association with the producer, England. Robert Morley has been mentioned as recreating his London hit on Broadway, but family affairs are keeping him over there.

Fielding Defends Ticket Brokers

New York City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding, in a guest appearance on "Hi, Jinx" over WNBC (20), said, "There has been some unfair criticism of the ticket brokers, but largely it is industry business, but largely it is conducted on a firm basis; there is a small percentage of parasites who are infesting the industry, our aim is to eliminate them, one by one." Jinx Falkenberg, who, with husband Ted McCarty, conducts the program, had asked the Commissioner, "Don't you license scalpers?" received the reply: "We license ticket brokers."

Earlier Fielding stated that "We license establishments all the way down from Radio City Music Hall to laundries."

EDDIE GARR MAY GET BARTON ROLE IN 'ROAD'

"Tobacco Road," which suspended on tour in Allentown, Pa., recently because of the fatal illness of John Barton, is expected to resume, with Eddie Garr slated to take over the part of Jeeter Lester. Garr played in "Road" during its Broadway run, having followed James Barton. Show, which had been out 14 weeks this season, was booked through the winter.

Henry Hull originated the bewitching character of Jeeter Lester, replacing him, James Barton remaining in the lead for the longest time. He was replaced by the late (now the John Golden), moved to the 48th Street and then the Forrest, now the Coronet.

Arthur Judson (President of Columbia Concerts, Inc.) details why Longhair Music B.O. Boomed in War Years

an editorial feature
in the forthcoming
41st Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY
(Due Soon)

ATAM Contract Finally Signed

Revised basic pact between the managers' League of New York Theatres and the Assn. of Theatrical Agents and Managers, which had been in effect since 1934, was finally agreed upon after much controversy, actually was not signed until last night. The pact was a series of "last minute" arguments had caused the delay. The dispute was over out-of-town house managers, which showmen forget they had already con-

Differences were finally adjudged by Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, who acted as mediator. The four person plan her services in the case had been completed. ATAM-er never thought the situation was so serious. The pact was successfully clarified by mediation and were willing to let alone what it when the idea was proposed. Agreement was formally signed by Brock Pemberton, his first official act as the new president of the League and James F. Reilly who is now designated as executive director.

Increase to house managers in Philadelphia to \$132.20, was the point in dispute, showing saying it wasn't logic. In comparison with the new salary in Boston and Chicago of \$112.50. It was pointed out by ATAM that the house in both instances was a matter of agreed percentages and Mrs. Rosenberg ruled that to be correct. Why showmen had been paying the house men in Philadelphia more than in the other two states was not explained.

Mrs. Rosenberg's fee of \$2,500, said to be a concession on her part because a union vote involved, is now payable. Whether it is to be 50-50 remittance from the factions or whether the Leagues will split two-thirds of the fee has not been definitely decided.

Hurok, NCAC in Joint Booking of Frisco Symphony

Art Hurok and National Concert Artists Corp. have been appointed jointly to do the booking for the first transcontinental tour of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra for next spring. Hurok, conducted by the vet French maestro Pierre Monteux, will tour by special train for eight weeks visiting 33 cities. Tour will start March 16 in Visalia, Cal. Orch will travel south and east and reach New York for its first Carnegie Hall appearance April 11. It will return to the Coast via Canada and the midwest.

Shuberts Reported Trying to Balk 'Mill' Closing Due to Sharing Pact

'Three' Fails to Reopen Due to Bolger's Illness; Will Hit Road in February

Plan to re-light "Three to Make Three," which suspended at the Adelphi Theatre, just when the revue's star Ray Bolger was hospitalized, was called off, doctors advising the date and applying the until after further treatments for his ailment, diagnosed as yellow jaundice. Although the show could have layed off without salary liability, it being the week before Christmas, the actors and staff received full salaries from Stanley Gilkey and Barbara Payne, "Three's" producers.

Bolger was insured by Lloyd's of London against illness but the amount payable to the management was not indicated. "Three" was to have re-lighted for a week and a half, then close while Bolger took vacation. He is due to rest in Florida next month but is still at the Harkness Pavilion, Medical Center. Show is slated to play road dates starting in Chicago early in February.

Gilkey and Miss Payne have added another attraction to their season's schedule. It is "Message for Margaret," a four person play which will be produced with Henry Sherek. Latter presented it in London early this season.

Experimental Stymie Cleared

After a series of huddles covering an extended period, Equity and the Dramatists Guild have come to agreement about experimental plays, which are to start early next month, according to an announcement from the American National Theatre and Academy. Latter will be a factor the plays to be presented in its little theatre on 38th street, which has reverted to its original title, the Prince.

Guild had charged that Equity was holding up the long-sought-for experimental theatre, and while the actors union formerly looked on such projects with some doubt, apparently changed its viewpoint and granted a number of concessions. Equity withdrew its idea of \$60 weekly for the actors, who are to receive a "fair measure" of compensation. The plan was by the board, comprised of five Equityites and an equal number of Guild representatives.

Actors in the experimental plays were originally supposed to participate in the profits and film rights should the shows be taken over for commercial presentation within five years after original showings. Equity offered to reduce that period to 18 months but the Guild demurred. Although the showmen agreed to more favorable to the attraction, business for "Mill" during Christmas and New Year's was good, excellent, according to the advance sale, but unless another house begins the latter week exceeded \$70,000. Plans are for putting on five plays.

(Continued on page 44)

There was plenty of buzzing in Broadway managerial circles last week about certain manipulations that fumbled against the 46th Street theatre, owned and operated by City Investing Co.

Crucial in the matter was that the Shubert office is said to have sought to balk the closing notice being given "The Red Mill," now in its 34th week at the house. The Shuberts, Louis Lofto, general manager of City's legions, booked in "Finnian's Rainbow," regarded as the most likely success among several new musicals. It opens at the 46th the week of Jan. 6.

City's half a dozen legit theatres are regarded as opposition by the Shuberts to their own house, and it's not the "first clash" between the ownership interests. There was a stop limit of \$22,000 gross in the last week of the season, but that an attempt was made to keep last week's takings above that mark. Shubert's office is due to rest in Florida next month but is still at the Harkness Pavilion, Medical Center. Show is slated to play road dates starting in Chicago early in February.

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Dowling May Bring Singer to Court On Division of Profits

Differences between Eddie Dowling and Louis J. Singer, who were partners during the run of "The Glass Menagerie" and technically co-managers of the road company of the drama, may reach the courts.

One argument concerns the one-night "Menagerie" company, Dowling claiming that Singer had disposed of those rights to J. J. Leventhal without his assent. That matter is to be settled by arbitration, but Dowling asserts Singer has never given him a final production statement nor a split of operating profits.

Actor-manager also alleges that the loss on "St. Lazare's Pharmacy," which the co-produced hit, was charged against the "Menagerie" profits. Estimated that the red on the latter show exceeded \$70,000. It opened in Montreal and played Chicago, not being shown on Broadway.

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